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FBIS-EEU-88-078 CONTENTS *22 April 1988*

BULGARIA

- BCP Daily Welcomes Jakes Visit *[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 20 Apr]* 1
- Yotov Receives Group of CPSU Lecturers 1
- Yordanov Receives USSR Radio Committee Official 2
- Mladenov To Visit Poland End of April 2
- Socialist TU Press Editors Meet in Sofia 2
  - Dyulgerov Receives Editors 2
- Atanasov Receives Italian, Belgian Envoys 3
- Balev, Stanishev Meet Jordanian CP Secretary 3
- Youth Daily on 'Planes of Terrorism' *[Dremdzhiev in NARODNA MLADEZH 20 Apr]* 3
- Islamic Report on Muslims Rebutted 3
- Government Reviews 3-Month Economic Results *[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 19 Apr]* 4

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

- More on Government Reshuffle 6
  - Husak Appoints Government 7
- Biography of New Federal Minister Calfa 7
- Fojtik Addresses Lenin Anniversary Celebration 7
- Federal Statistical Office Issues Report *[RUDE PRAVO 16 Apr]* 12
- Chnoupek Plans Visit to Egypt 25-28 Apr 15
- Israel Blamed for Al-Wazir Murder *[RUDE PRAVO 19 Apr]* 15
- Terrorism Condemned, Measures Called For *[ROLNICKE NOVINY 21 Apr]* 16
- U.S. Involvement in Gulf Conflict Criticized *[Bratislava PRAVDA 19 Apr]* 16
- SFRY Rozic-Led Delegation Pays Official Visit 17
  - Visits Prague Cooperative 17
  - Indra Hosts Dinner 17
  - Indra, Rozic Speak at Dinner *[TANJUG]* 17
  - Indra Receives Delegation 17
  - Jakes Receives Delegation 17
  - Further Report 18
  - Ends Visit 18
- Husak's USSR Visit Reviewed *[RUDE PRAVO 16 Apr]* 18

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

- Honecker, FRG's Vogel Hold 'Constructive' Talk 20
  - Vogel: Talks 'Open, Fair' 20
  - DPA Reports Vogel Comments *[Hamburg]* 21
  - Further DPA Report *[Hamburg]* 21
- LDPD Delegation Holds Talks in FRG 21
  - Delegation Arrives 21
  - Meets With Schaeuble, Mischnick 22
  - Meets With Parliamentary Leaders 22
  - Concludes Bonn Talks 22
- Members of 'Human Trade Gang' Arrested *[NEUES DETSCHLAND 16-17 Apr]* 22
- Daily Criticizes U.S. Strikes in Gulf *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 20 Apr]* 22
- Honecker Cables PLO's 'Arafat on Al-Wazir *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 19 Apr]* 23
  - Leaders Sign Condolences Book 23
- Honecker, Stoph Greet Syria on National Day *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 16-17 Apr]* 24
- Argentine Vice President Martinez Arrives 24
  - Received by Sindermann 24
- Holds Talks With Fischer 25

  - Confers With Axen 25
  - Received by Stoph 25
- Schuerer Receives Soviet Minister Margulov *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 16-17 Apr]* 26
- Fischer Receives Hungarian Official *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 15 Apr]* 26
- Stoph, Hungary's Kopeczi Discuss Cultural Ties *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 15 Apr]* 26
- Agreement on Cooperation With Romania Signed *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 15 Apr]* 27
- Politburo's Kleiber Meets With LCY Delegation *[TANJUG]* 27
- Politburo Statement on Neubrandenburg Report 27

HUNGARY

- Government Reacts to Killing of PLO Figure 31
  - Ministry Holds News Conference 31
  - Condolence Cable Sent 31
- RCP Delegation Visits, Meets With Szuros, Kotai 31
- MSZMP's Szuros Addresses Party Activists 31
  - Surveys Ties With Danube States 31
  - Presents Policy Paper 32
  - Discusses Socialist 'Renewal' 32
- Union Leader Views Party Conference Proposals 33
  - Discusses Economy 33
  - Notes Strike Law Prospects 33
- Miklos Nemeth Interviewed on Economic Reforms *[Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU 15 Apr]* 34
- Social Affairs Minister Cited on 'Restructuring' *[Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER 8 Apr]* 36
- News Conference Held on Business Regulation *[NEPSZABADSAG 15 Apr]* 38
- Trade Bank To Issue Credit Cards, Dividends 38

POLAND

- Steelworkers Demand Pay Raise, Threaten Strike *[AFP]* 39
- Work of Sejm Session Detailed 39
- Daily Praises 1943 Ghetto Uprising *[Jaworski in TRYBUNA LUDU 19 Apr]* 40
- Rakowski Interviewed on Restructuring 40
- Government Presidium Studies Energy Policy 44
- Baryla Addresses Conference on Patriotism *[TRYBUNA LUDU 16-17 Apr]* 44
- Leaders Attend Soviet Embassy Reception 45
  - Ciosek Addresses Gala 45
- Bulgarian Foreign Minister To Visit 46
- Czyrek Meets FRG Politicians in Bonn 46
- Malinowski Receives Netherlands Delegation 47
  - Orzechowski Meets Parliamentarians 47
- PZPR's Michalek Meets Cypriot President 47
- Political Talks With Yemen Held *[TRYBUNA LUDU 14 Apr]* 47
- Jaruzelski Receives Ambassador to Libya 47
- Czyrek Receives Mozambican Parliamentary Group 47

ROMANIA

- Ceausescu Meets Batmonh, Ends Visit to Mongolia 49
  - Communique Issued 49
- Ceausescu Condolence Cable Sent to 'Arafat *[ROMANIA LIBERA 18 Apr]* 51
- Giosan Attends Israel Anniversary Reception 51
- Vaduva, Stanescu Receive FRG Businessmen 51
- Socialist Property Development Reviewed 51

YUGOSLAVIA

- Foreign Secretary To Visit China 25-29 April 53
- SFRY Denies Al-Wazir Killer Used Yugoslav Plane *[Kuwait KUNA]* 53
- Petrovic Comments on Al-Wazir Assassination *[BORBA 20 Apr]* 53
- Economists Discuss Restructuring With Soviets 54

Agreement Reached on Debt Rescheduling 54
FEC on Changes in Foreign Economic Relations 54
Kosovo Polje Situation 'Getting Worse' 55
  Gracanin Receives Petitioners *[BORBA 14 Apr]* 55
  Press Deplores Petition *[Bajrami in RILINDJA 15 Apr]* 55
  Pristina Leader on Petition *[RILINDJA 16 Apr]* 56
  Grievances Voiced at Meeting *[RILINDJA 15 Apr]* 56
Pristina Assembly Elects New Officers 57

BCP Daily Welcomes Jakes Visit

AU212008 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 20 Apr 88 p 1

[Editorial: "Long and Sincere Friendship"]

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, is expected to arrive in our country today. This event is awaited with great interest by the peoples in both fraternal countries, because it will further intensify the friendly relations of our two Communist Parties and will give a powerful impetus to the integration processes between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the CSSR.

The epoch in which we live shows that socialist Czechoslovakia is developing its national economy at high speed and a dynamic pace. According to statistical data, the country's industrial output increased 12 times, and as regards average grain production, the CSSR, with its cooperative and highly mechanized agriculture, is one of the first 10 countries in the world.

The achievements of Czechoslovak economy are particularly great under the conditions of intensified national economy and scientific-technical revolution. As to the number of scientific developments that have been published, the CSSR holds the 14th place in the world, and this is a great achievement of the Czechoslovak scientists.

As a member of the socialist community, the CSSR has achieved remarkable successes. The multilateral relations of this country within the CEMA framework and bilateral cooperation, such as the one with the People's Republic of Bulgaria play a decisive role in this respect. The signing of the first friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance treaty 40 years ago between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the CSSR gave powerful impetus to the development of this cooperation. In the period under review, the drawing closer together between the two countries assumed broad dimensions. The increase of goods turnover which increased over 12 times during the past period is convincing in this respect. During the previous 5-year plan this turnover marked a 15-percent increase. Mutual deliveries of goods exchanged on the basis of specialization and production sharing are steadily increasing and already represent 45 percent of our total exchange of goods.

Our bilateral relations manifest themselves through ever-improving, new forms of cooperation. This appears both from the establishment of twin towns and villages, as well as from the joint efforts in production sharing of various types of goods and equipment. The Liaz-Madara truck manufacturing plant, which has already delivered approximately 30,000 trucks to be assembled in Bulgaria and approximately 150,000 rear axles for heavy trucks to the CSSR, is good example of a complete and efficient cooperation. Today the Liaz-Madara trucks are exported and well received in 30 countries of the world.

During the current 5-year plan period, mutually advantageous cooperation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the CSSR will continue to develop even faster. The exchange of goods is expected to increase by 50 percent according to plan, as compared with the last 5-year plan period. Cooperation in the fields of machine building industry, electronics, metallurgical, and light industry, in transportation, trade, and tourism will be intensified. The economic progress of both countries will impose a change in the previously existing methods of their foreign trade relations, among other things. In conformity with the decisions of the 43d CEMA Session, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia enterprises will have even greater opportunities to adopt independent decisions so that they may more promptly attain world standards. This requires even greater intensification of joint work in scientific collectives, enterprises, and trusts.

Naturally, the development and consolidation of fraternal friendship should not be evaluated on the basis of production results only. Our friendship manifests itself in numerous other fields. The visits exchanged between various artistic collectives and the exchange of cultural values between the fraternal countries, for example, are recently expanding on a large scale.

The Communist Parties of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the CSSR, which are infinitely loyal to Marxism-Leninism, devote comprehensive efforts to developing closer ties, as well as to consolidating the socialist community and the international communist and workers movement. Our two parties are leading their peoples in the struggle for peace and international security, resolutely supporting the initiatives of the Soviet Union and of the Warsaw Pact member countries in this respect.

The Bulgarian people today will welcome the CPCZ Central Committee general secretary as their dearest guest and friend. In expressing their most sincere and warmest feelings, the Bulgarian people will again demonstrate their heartfelt affection for the fraternal Czechoslovak people and for the CPCZ—their tested, political vanguard.

Yotov Receives Group of CPSU Lecturers

AU202013 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1930 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] A group of lecturers from the CPSU Central Committee visited Bulgaria. At labor collectives and at meetings with ideological cadres they lectured on topical issues related to restructuring in the USSR.

The lecturers have been received by Comrade Yordan Yotov. In a friendly atmosphere, he briefed them on the work related to implementing the decisions of the BCP Central Committee July Plenum and the BCP National Conference.

Yordanov Receives USSR Radio Committee Official
AU202016 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1930 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] On 20 April Comrade Georgi Yordanov, minister of culture, science, and education received Genrikh Yushkyavichyus, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting. They had a talk related to strengthening cooperation between the two radio and television organizations. The meeting was attended by Lyubomir Pavlov, chairman of the Committee on Television and Radio.

Mladenov To Visit Poland End of April
AU211809 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1730 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] At the invitation of Mr Marian Orzechowski, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party and minister of foreign affairs of Poland, Mr Petur Mladenov, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, will visit Poland toward the end of April 1988.

Socialist TU Press Editors Meet in Sofia

AU201659 [Editorial Report] Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian on 19 April on page 1 carries, under the heading "The Trade Union Press and Socioeconomic Development in Contemporary Conditions—Experience and Problems", a 300-word welcoming message to "the editors in chief of trade union newspapers and journals from the socialist countries" who are attending a meeting on the foregoing topic that opens on 19 April in the Boyana Trade Union House in Sofia. The message is accompanied on pages 1 and 4 by the following four articles, totalling approximately 3,050 words, by chief editors of trade union publications:

a) a 1,200-word article on pages 1 and 4 by Aleksandr Potapov, editor in chief of Moscow TRUD, entitled "In the Front Ranks of Restructuring";

b) a 600-word article on page 1 by Lim Eldiorado, editor in chief of the journal of the Federation of Trade Unions in Cambodia, entitled "In the Historic Struggle to Rally the Workers";

c) a 500-word article on page 4 by Rainer Fischer, editor in chief of the Berlin TRIBUENE trade union daily, entitled "Duty and Responsibility"; and

d) a 750-word article on page 4 by Franciszek Ciemny, editor in chief of Warsaw ZWIAZKOWIEC, entitled "Profitable Activity."

In his noncontroversial article, Potapov describes the new atmosphere of open debate and constructive criticism in the Soviet press, aimed at "consolidating the forces of public opinion around the key tasks of restructuring," and defines the tasks of the press at "the new stage of the practical realization and implementation of the conception of the renewal of our society," tasks which would be impossible to fulfill without glasnost. He then gives a few general figures indicating the recent improvement in family conditions and life expectancy in the USSR and outlines his newspapers' role in making sure that the trade unions play their full part in the new economic conditions.

Eldiorado in his article gives a routine exposition of the work of the Cambodian trade unions in implementing the national reconciliation program proclaimed in August 1987, under a program drawn up by the Federation of Trade Unions in Cambodia that follows the line of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party. He gives due credit to the aid given to the workers of Cambodia by the Vietnamese people and especially by the socialist countries led by the USSR. He concludes by mentioning "a new press organ, which is to replace the journal and is to start publication before the convening of the Second Congress of Cambodian Trade Unions in October 1988."

Rainer Fischer's article gives an account of the role of the local trade union organization at the Wulfersdorf coal mine in negotiating the relocation of the 600 miners made redundant by the closure of the exhausted mine.

Francisek Ciemny describes the successful work of the trade union organization at the Lublin Truck Plant in setting up a special plant shop for the workers and a tourism association, the profits of which are used to reward inventors at the plant whom the plant management cannot afford to pay for their discoveries, as well as the plans to form an agricultural association with a local cooperative.

Dyulgerov Receives Editors
AU211834 Sofia BTA in English
1330 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Sofia, April 21 (BTA)—The importance of direct links between the trade union media was stressed at the meeting which journalists from Bulgaria, Vietnam, the GDR, Kampuchea, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR, Czechoslovakia and Hungary completed here. They discussed the experience and the problems of the trade union press and the socioeconomic development in the present-day conditions.

The agenda included the present state of the contacts established between the trade union publications and the possibilities for wider bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

In their statements, the editors in chief and the representatives of the trade union newspapers, magazines and publishing houses told about trade union work at this stage of development of the socialist community countries. They made specific suggestions for new more efficient forms of joint work.

The participants in the meeting were received by Mr Petur Dyulgerov, president of the Central Council of the Bulgarian Trade Unions and alternate member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP. He dwelt in detail on the Bulgarian trade unions' role and place in the present-day conditions, on questions of self-management and the allocation of socialist property to the work forces for management.

Atanasov Receives Italian, Belgian Envoys

AU201904 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] On 20 April Georgi Atanasov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, received Paolo Taroni, the newly appointed Italian ambassador to Bulgaria, and Michel Dooms, the newly appointed Belgian ambassador to Bulgaria.

Balev, Stanishev Meet Jordanian CP Secretary

AU211947 Sofia BTA in English 1750 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Sofia, April 21 (BTA—Today, Mr Milko Balev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CC of the BCP had a meeting with Mr Ya'qub Ziyaiddin, first secretary of the CC of the Jordan Communist Party, who is on a brief visit to this country. The guest had also a meeting with Mr Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the CC of the BCP.

During the meeting, which passed in a cordial comradely atmosphere, the two sides discussed certain topical problems of the world communist and workers movement and of the international situation.

Special attention was paid to the situation in the Middle East. It was pointed out that the most efficient mechanism for regulation of the Middle East crisis and finding of a comprehensive, just and durable solution would be an international conference under the aegis of the U.N. with the participation of the Security Council permanent members and all sides interested, the PLO included. The legal basis of the conference should become the recognition by all participants of resolutions No. 242 and 338 of the U.N. Security Council and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, its right for self determination included. The two sides expressed willingness for further broadening of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the BCP and the Jordan Communist Party on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

Youth Daily on 'Planes of Terrorism'

AU211113 Sofia NARODNA MLADEZH in Bulgarian 20 Apr 88 p 3

[Veselin Dremdzhiev comment: "The Planes of Terrorism"]

[Text] One such aircraft is still standing in Algiers airport. Every day we read dozens of telex pages about it. In the evening the zoom lenses of the cameras bring the plane into closeup on our TV screens. It is enough for us to realize that the hijackers of this Boeing-747 jumbo cannot in any circumstances win sympathy for their cause from the millions of people throughout the world. This is always the case with the terrorists of the air. However, despite this the numbers of pirates in aircraft have increased in recent days. What is worse, the terrorism this time carries the definition of "state" terrorism. The state of Israel sent a special aircraft into the skies near Tunis to enable the commandos from Tel Aviv to more easily riddle with holes the Palestinian leader Abu Jihad. Another state—the United States—did not hesitate to use its carrier-based aircraft in an attempt, also using the means of terrorist pressure, to raise its authority amid the flames of the Persian conflict. For the moment only the oil prices and the level of tension have risen, not to mention the wave of displeasure throughout the world.

Such is the fate of the planes of terrorism. While they all serve approximately the same goals, some gain "popularity" in front of the TV cameras, while others return unobserved to their bases. I wonder when justice ever did exist.

Islamic Report on Muslims Rebutted

AU200958 Sofia BTA in English 0716 GMT 20 Apr 88

["Truths Grossly Distorted"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 20 (BTA)—Today the Sofia news weekly published the comments made before a member of its staff by Mr Lyubomir Popov, deputy minister of foreign affairs and chairman of the Committee for Affairs of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church and the Religious Denominations, in connection with the coverage given recently in the Turkish media of a special group's report on the condition of Muslim Bulgarians.

Mr Lyubomir Popov says that at the Seventeenth Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Member Countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, which closed on March 25 this year in Amman, the organisation's so-called contact group submitted for consideration a report concerning the condition of Muslim Bulgarians. Neither the content of the report nor the view [word indistinct] of it have been so far brought normally to the attention of the Bulgarian [word indistinct]

The Bulgarian deputy foreign minister recalls that certain circles in Turkey, guided by anachronistic Pan-Turkish ambitions, fanned up this artificially raised question at the previous OIC ministerial-level meeting held in Fes, Morocco, in 1986. Despite the reluctance of many member countries, the meeting decided to form a special group and to give it a mandate "to discuss the conditions of the Muslim Minority in Bulgaria". Bulgaria received this group from June 1 through 3, 1987 and, at the guests' explicit request, their schedule included visits to Kurdzhali, Shumen, to Muslim cemeteries and mosques (some of which had been reported destroyed by sources in Turkey). Not a single request of the group was turned down. They met with the chief mufti and with other religious dignitaries, with Muslim Bulgarians, and with MP's. They had talks with Mr Lyubomir Popov himself and with Mr Ivan Ganev, deputy minister of foreign affairs.

They were provided with exhaustive elucidations about the freedom of the religious communities and more specifically about the full freedom enjoyed by Muslim Bulgarians and about the support they get from the state. "We were convinced that after what they saw in this country, the 'contact group' would rise above the propaganda tags and ideological stereotypes, laid on thick under outside pressure. Unfortunately, it seems that the group has prepared its report entirely on the basis of inferences drawn from material made public by the Turkish mass media," says Mr Lyubomir Popov.

He points out in his comments that the publication of large excerpts from the 'secret' report in that country's press even before it was submitted to the conference itself, suggests the identity of the report's real author: the interested circles in Turkey. "The report contains some frivolous excursive remarks about Bulgarian history, such as the absurd claim that all Bulgarians were allegedly of Turkish descent," Mr Lyubomir Popov says.

"Another gross fabrication is the allegation that muftis and imams in Bulgaria were allegedly appointed by the government," Mr Popov emphasises.

"The members of the group are perfectly well aware that the Muslim denomination in the People's Republic of Bulgaria is a completely self-governing community, functioning in compliance with its own democratic rules and regulations: the Statute of the Muslim Denomination. They had a chance to see this for themselves during their numerous meetings here," the deputy minister says.

"For all that," his comments read, "instead of taking the facts into account, the authors of the report make no secret of their partiality for the Turkish versions. At the same time, they do not cite any fact which they have established themselves during their visit to Bulgaria to corroborate the fabrications about some restriction of the Muslim Bulgarians' religious freedoms. The group has adopted a simple logic: They have just ignored the say of those whose condition they were supposed to investigate: the Muslim Bulgarians," Mr Lyubomir Popov emphasises. He goes on to say that the distortion of truth is further evidence that the report is tendentious and that its authors are reluctant to face up to the real state of affairs, which entirely refutes the thesis of any abuse of the Muslim Bulgarians' rights.

"One such approach obviously calls into question the accuracy of the report as a whole. Its authors have clearly sought to make an instrument of Turkey's claims out of an ostensibly independent document of the international organisation," Mr Lyubomir Popov says.

He discloses that the Bulgarian side promptly asked the OIC secretary general that Bulgaria be allowed to send an observer when the question of the Muslim Bulgarians and the "contact group" report were being considered.

"To our surprise, the secretary general, without even laying the matter before the conference, answered that this request ran counter to the usual practice of the OIC. At the same time, it is common knowledge that observers are admitted to the OIC meetings," Mr Lyubomir Popov remarks, and he describes these actions by the organisation's secretary general as "entirely inconsistent with the universally accepted international practice."

He assesses the report of the so-called contact group on the condition of Muslims in Bulgaria as "a serious attempt to mislead the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and to place its prestige at the service of self-seeking Pan-Turkish objectives."

"However, the attempts to enlist the support of international forums and organisations for one state's unfounded and anachronistic claims are certainly doomed to failure," Mr Lyubomir Popov says.

He indicates that Bulgaria maintains relations of amity and cooperation with most of the member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. Their positions are identical or close on such vital international issues as peace and security, the need for mutually advantageous contacts, and the situation in such regions as the Middle East.

"These relations should not be allowed to revert and artificial obstacles should not be raised to their further promotion on account of fomenting a nonexisting problem," Mr Lyubomir Popov emphasises in conclusion.

Government Reviews 3-Month Economic Results

AU201323 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 19 Apr 88 pp 1, 6

[Ivan Ivanov report: "No Room for Complacency"—passages in boldface as published]

[Text] **The first conclusion made by Georgi Atanasov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, who opened and**

chaired yesterday's conference in the Council of Ministers, was that the plan fulfillment results mark a good start to the 1988 economic year, but we have no grounds for complacency.

This conference conforms only in its external features with the government's traditional initiatives shown at the end of each quarter of the year. It was emphasized that the conditions under which we are living and working in 1988, and under which we are fulfilling the tasks relating to Bulgaria's scientific, technical, and socioeconomic development, **are not traditional ones.** The participants in the conference included ministers; chairmen of the executive committees of the oblast people's councils and certain municipal people's councils; leaders of associations, economic trusts, and combines; chairmen of the specialized commercial banks; and Bulgarian trade union officials.

The report delivered by Stoyan Ovcharov, minister of the economy and planning, made an in-depth analysis of the first quarter results. There is no doubt that, **according to preliminary data, quantitative and qualitative indices in the economy's development have been achieved, as well as notable scientific, technical, and socioeconomic progress.** More specifically,

—the country's overall production output is 7 percent higher than that achieved in the first quarter of last year;

—social labor productivity shows a rise of 10.4 percent;

—production for the domestic market has risen by 6 percent; and

—everyday services to the population have increased by 9 percent.

Prime costs have been reduced, and material consumption is falling. Exports of goods have increased. It was explicitly emphasized that the influence of the new wholesale prices is "wiped out" in the indices under review, since the calculations have been made on a comparative basis. It is true that some part of the high results are due to the comparatively low base with which the comparison is drawn. However, this in no way discredits the achievements and efforts of the self-managing organizations and enterprises and of the workers throughout the country.

The latter are making an especially marked contribution in the strategic directions of electronics, the biotechnological and chemical industries, and machine building. One has the impression that the economic trusts, combines, and enterprises from the "traditional" technological complexes, **such as the "Metallurgy and Mineral Raw Materials" Association,** are also working well.

A successful first step has been made toward fulfilling the annual plan. **It is particularly important that 24 percent of the task relating to the volume of production in 1988 has been fulfilled.** Now every self-managing economic organization and enterprise and the leaderships of the municipalities will analyze the results carefully, critically, and in depth. However, one should point out **certain weaknesses** that may create serious impediments in future work.

A number of economic organizations are not fulfilling the indices of the plans they themselves have adopted, even though these indices have been reduced in some cases!

Great, concentrated attention and concern, with a call for persona responsibility, must be paid to **the implementation of the foreign exchange programs.**

The results in the field of **construction** are not satisfactory.

Although the ratio between money and goods, services, and housing shows an improvement as compared to the same period of 1987, **much still remains to be done to more fully meet the consumer demand and to saturate the market.** The importance of this issue is all the greater due to the fact that for the first time we are fulfilling a plan with such a strong social impact and emphasis.

The trend toward technological and, on this basis, structural renewal of the economy is gaining strength. This is a precondition for adding dynamism to social development. However, the placing of socialist property under the management and administration of the labor collectives will create an immense upsurge of social energy and creative initiative on the part of the masses.

In his report, Comrade Grigor Stoichkov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, made an in-depth analysis of the forthcoming transition from **preparing the labor collectives and the population in the enterprises and municipalities toward implementing this remarkable historic act in practice.** Our entire political, organizational, and economic activity is now being directed toward implanting the essence of this handover of power in the heart and mind of every Bulgarian worker. The preparations are not, and cannot be a formal affair. Quite the reverse, based on critical analysis, they must provide a positive program for multiplying and enriching socialist property and lead to a development of initiative by all, ranging from the primary economic collectives, the townships, and the individual to the enterprises, trusts, and municipalities. In this lies the "kernel" of the expanding self-management.

Georgi Atanasov delivered a comprehensive concluding speech on the problems discussed.

More on Government Reshuffle

LD211540 Prague CTK in English 1447 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 21 (CTK)—The Czech National Council today approved a bill on changes in the organization and competence of ministries and other central bodies of state administration in the Czech Socialist Republic.

The new law has resulted from the need for a change in the activity of the Czech Government bodies whose new organizational arrangement should lead towards a more versatile and rational solution of tasks and to a 30 per cent reduction in the number of their employees.

The new law emphasizes the necessity of comprehensive health and social care, labour and wage planning, protection of the enviroment, care for the development of the young generation and physical training. With regard to this, the following ministries have been set up which either amalgamate or extend the activities of former bodies:

— Ministry of Finance, Prices and Wages

— Ministry of Construction and the Building Industry

— Ministry of Education, Youth and Physical Training

— Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

— Ministry of the Interior and Living Enviroment

— Ministry of Forestry, Water Economy and the Wood-Processing Industry

— Ministry of Trade and Tourism

— Commission for Planning and Scientific-Technological Development

The jurisdiction of the other former ministries and bodies remains unchanged:

— Ministry of Justice

— Ministry of Culture

— Ministry of Industry

— Ministry of Agriculture and Food

— Committee of People's Control

The ministries and state administration bodies abolished under the new law are:

— Commission for Scientific-Technological Development and Investments

— Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

— Price Office

— Press and Information Office

The Czech National Council Presidium accepted today the resignation of several Czech Government members on the proposal of the Czech National Front Presidium and Czech Premier Ladislav Adamec.

The outgoing government members who resigned are: Deputy Premier Zdenek Horcik, Deputy Premier Rudolf Hegenbart, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Nasta Baumrukova, Minister of Culture Milan Klusak, minister of the Interior Josef Jung.

The following is the list of the new Czech Government members:

— Milan Kymlicka, minister of culture

— Vaclav Jirecek, minister of the interior and living environment

— Bohumil Urban, chairman of the Czech Commission for Planning and Scientific and Technological Development and first deputy premier

— Jaroslav Tlapak, deputy premier

— Jiri Nikodym, minister of finance, prices and wages

— Jaroslav Vavra, minister of construction and the building industry

— Karel Julis, minister of education, youth and physical training

— Jaroslav Prokopec, minister of health and social affairs

— Frantisek Kalina, minister of forestry, water economy and the wood-processing industry

— Josef Rab, minister of trade and tourism

— Antonin Kaspar, minister of justice

— Petr Hojer, minister of industry

— Ondrej Vanek, minister of agriculture and food

— Jan Motl, minister in charge of the People's Control Committee

— Karel Loebl, representing the Czechoslovak Socialist Party, and Vladimir Simek, representing the Czechoslovak People's Party are ministers without portfolio.

The new government members later took the oath.

Husak Appoints Government

LD212141 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1630 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] On the proposal of the CPCZ Central Committee and the Presidium of the Czechoslovak National Front, President Gustav today appointed the new CSSR Government. [passage omitted]

After the swearing-in ceremony, Comrade Lubomir Strougal thanked President Gustav Husak for the confidence placed in the members of the government. He said: We are entering an important period of speeding up the socioeconomic advancement of our country and the restructuring of our society. At this stage, the government needs the trust and support of the president of the CSSR, and its central government, led by the general secretary of the party Central Committee Milos Jakes, and the support of the CSSR National Front, and of all Czechoslovak people. It always needed it, and it is of particular importance at the stage we are entering now.

Lubomir Strougal also spoke about the conclusions of the 17th party congress and their implementation, particularly at the seventh and ninth sessions of the party Central Committee. He underlined the duty to round off and implement this political line thoroughly.

In conclusion, Lubomir Strougal assured President Gustav Husak that the government would do its utmost to secure and implement all the demanding tasks in the policy, economic, social, and the domestic and foreign political spheres.

Comrade Gustav Husak then cordially congratulated the premier, deputy premiers, and ministers of the federal government on their appointment to important state offices. He said the changes that were given a specific form at 17th party congress and at individual Central Committee sessions, and particularly at the recent ninth session, had been under preparation for years.

Comrade Gustav Husak noted that the CPCZ program is supported by the majority of our people. On the one hand, it has created impatience regarding whether or not we are too slow in implementing changes, and on the other, anxiety regarding such speedy and revolutionary changes. Neither one nor the other is right. All principles of restructuring must be thoroughly implemented in life. We must not stop in the middle of the path, we must win people over to their implementation. In this process we also follow and make use of foreign experience because many socialist countries follow a similar path. Gustav Husak said that he recently discussed these issues with Comrades Mikhail Gorbachev and Andrey Gromyko. Restructuring is mainly a great struggle for the people's way of thinking. District and borough party conferences currently are being held, and the delegates are analyzing the tasks we want to implement. This also will be the case at the regional party conferences. We want to see all party members help us cope with our tasks. This is needed by the government, the party, and our entire society.

We have our program, said Comrade Husak. What matters now is that each member of the government look into the area for which he is responsible critically. In the party bodies and in mass organizations, there too, is much rigidity and many mechanical attitudes. We must eliminate them faster starting with ourselves. In this connection, Gustav Husak quoted an idea from the ninth Central Committee session, that the party will not substitute for state and other bodies. Therefore, responsibility for dealing with tasks will rest with the members of the government and the economic officials.

Biography of New Federal Minister Calfa

LD211727 Prague CTK in English
1628 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 21 (CTK)—New Czechoslovak Federal Minister Without Portfolio Marian Calfa was born on May 7, 1946 in Trebisov, east Slovakia into a railway worker's family.

He graduated from the law faculty of Charles University in Prague in 1970. From 1972 he worked in the Czechoslovak Government Presidium office in the Legislative Department. In 1983 he was appointed head of the Economic Law Department and in 1986 head of the Legislative Department. Since 1987 he has been also deputy head of the office of the Czechoslovak Government Presidium.

In these capacities he participates in drawing up legal norms providing for the restructuring of Czechoslovakia's economic mechanisms and also shares in the work of the CMEA Commission for Legal Questions.

Marian Calfa has been a member of the Czechoslovak Communist Party since 1964. He has been awarded the state distinction "for outstanding work".

Fojtik Addresses Lenin Anniversary Celebration

LD212314 Prague Television Service in Czech
1703 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Speech by Jan Fojtik at a meeting organized by the CPCZ Central Committee, the Prague City party committee, the Central Committee of the National Front of the Czech and Slovak SR's, the Federal Assembly, and the Czech National Council in celebration of the anniversary of the birth of Lenin; at the National Theater in Prague—live]

[Text] Dear comrades: Tomorrow, 118 years will have passed since the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, an outstanding revolutionary and thinker. The setting-up of the CPSU is inseparably connected with his name, as is the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the foundation of the first socialist state, the state of the working classes and people. Its spiritual heritage is at the basis of the world's revolutionary transformations in this century. It inspires broad movements of fighters against all the forms of oppression, for a life fit for human beings, in true freedom and peace.

Particularly at present, when mankind has found itself at a dangerous crossroads, when the questions of the very existence of life on the earth has arisen, when the orientation on revolutionary changes and further social progress must be anxiously and immediately connected with long-term efforts at averting a nuclear catastrophy and safeguarding peace, the thoughts of Vladimir Ilich Lenin and the work that he completed are aquiring new strength, attractiveness, and topicality. Its life-giving force is demonstrated particularly strongly in current CPSU policy, aimed at renewing socialism, restructuring Soviet society, fully using the advantages of the socialist order, and fulfilling socialism's peaceful mission in the world.

As noted by Comrade Milos Jakes in his address on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of victorious February, the Leninist policy of the CPSL also inspired the CPCZ. Under its influence, stemming from the state and problems of our society, and particularly from its requirement for further development, we have arrived at the conclusions that fundamental restructuring of all the spheres of social life is urgent. This conclusion, Comrade Jakes said, has found its reflection in the strategic line of speeding-up the social and economic development of our society, set out by the 17th party congress.

This line has been further specified by the Central Committee at its March, and particularly at its December sessions of last year, into a comprehensive program for fundamentally restructuring the economic mechanism and further deepening socialist democracy as the two basic pillars of the restructuring of society as a whole. It is a program of far-reaching revolutionary changes in fundamental structure and superstructure, implementing social justice and setting-up overall social relations with the aim of lifting our socialist society onto a new, qualitatively higher level.

It is therefore justified for us to stress that restructuring is a continuation of the revolution under new conditions. Its success will depend on the broad revelation and use of the material, social, and spiritual resources of socialism on the basis of all-round activation of the creative forces of people's abilities by means of deepening socialist democracy. The significance of the recent ninth session of the CPCZ Central committee lies, above all, in its assessing in an open and self-critical manner the readiness of the party for restructuring, so that conclusions were adopted for mobilizing its membership base and for necessary changes in the direction and work methods of party organs, beginning with the Central Committee. At this session, which is linked with the deliberations of the Central Committee December plenum in the spirit of Leninist principles, the role of the party was described as that of a revolutionary, political, and ideological vanguard of socialist society, which, in our conditions, applies its leading role in the National Front, in the specific form of the political system of socialism.

The basic, integral, and uniting role of the party, which gives rise to its duties toward the working class and all working people—first, the duty to work out the strategy of all-around development of society and to safeguard the necessary conditions for its implementation so that it may promote constant growth and optimal use of society's natural, economic, and spiritual potential—has a deeply democratic significance. The very creation of the political course, and the more so its realization, must be the affair of broad masses of the population. The party, all its organs and officials, must be firmly connected with them.

This means, in the work of all party organs and organizations to make a turn toward a broad and efficient political organization, mass political and ideological educational work among people. This is the only way to strengthen the connection between the party and the working class and other working people, to overcome the doubt thrown on some values, as well as certain mistrust in the ability of managing centers which brought about upheavals that have occurred during the past 4 decades on the path of building socialism, despite all its successes.

To accept the consequences of these upheavals envisages being governed by Leninist principles, not only to proclaim them but to implement them in practice, to see society, the real state of affairs at any section truthfully, and not to embellish the situation in any way or admit administrative methods of management that give rise to formalism, indifference and, what is particularly dangerous, the alienation of citizens from the state.

The party is at the head of restructuring. It must, therefore, also be the main motivating force and initiator of the development of socialist democracy. According to this, it must also select the methods of its activity and everyday work in the spirit of Gottwald's slogan of facing the masses. This is, I would say, the main conclusion of the April session of the CPCZ Central Committee. Its results were adopted in the party, as well as in society, with understanding.

As documented by the first round of district party conferences, our party aktiv is aware of what it means for its work and responsibility for the successful beginning of restructuring. The deliberations of the conferences, in comparison with the past, are much more matter-of-fact, less formal, and aimed at true problems worrying Communists, as well as other citizens. A matter-of-fact, constructive, and informal approach, as well as openness and mutual solutions of problems, which are attacked boldly with the aim of overcoming difficulties, shortcomings, and mistakes: This is what gives the party its Leninist character.

At the same time, we must firmly adhere to the set course. We must not allow the doubts—which arise at every significant change quite inevitably, particularly if there is a reassessment of various concepts, ideas, and forms of work—to lead toward skepticism, toward lack of trust in the ability to carry out the announced program, which, as a rule, is accompanied by delay tactics, passivity, and sometimes even lack of interest in the entire cause.

That is why it is so important today not only to talk about problems brought about by the beginning of restructuring in the economy and the social sphere, as well as in the work of the party, but also and above all, everywhere to move from words to actions, to practical implementation of restructuring. Only this fruitful policy may convincingly prove its need, inevitability, and purposefulness.

It will do no harm to recall in this connection one document which illustrates, maybe too clearly, how Lenin, after a fundamental explanation of strategic questions, was most of all concerned about the practical implementation of the adopted strategy of a political guideline. I have in mind the concept of the proposed directive of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Russia on the New Economic Policy of January 1922. What is so remarkable about it? It is a strong, categorical remark, addressed to the Council of People's Commissars, the Council of Labor and Defense, and all economic organs, saying that after the party conference in December 1921 and the Ninth Congress of the Soviets, when the New Economic Policy, the well-known NEP, was—and I quote—sufficiently firmly and clearly stipulated. It is necessary to exert every effort that it might be broadly and rapidly implemented. All general deliberations, theorizing, and debates about the New Economic Policy must be directed to discussion clubs, and partially into the press. All such phenomena must be mercilessly eliminated from the Council of People's Commissars, from the Council of Labor and Defense, and all the economic organs. This was resolutely demanded by Lenin, so that the management organs, by which the political guideline of the economic policy was delimited, might be concerned with its implementation, specific working out of this policy, so that bureaucracy and administrative delays might be abolished.

The document I mentioned is not accidental; it is obvious from all the work of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, particularly that dating from the time when the basis of socialism were laid in the USSR, that this theoretician and strategist of the revolution was never divorced from life. At the focus of his attention were always the interests and needs of the people. He consistently connected revolutionary theory with practice.

The principled character of policy must be continuously verified. As a real revolutionary, Lenin hated opportunism above all. He felt contempt for it for its evasiveness and cowardice, its unimaginative mundaneness, its surrender to elemental nature, its unprincipled adoption of fashionable trends, its lack of regard for the basic interest sof the working class, and its indifference to revolutionary prospects. Therefore, he ruthlessly attacked and criticized it often.

The principled character and loyalty to the cause of the revolution, to the working class, and to the people always determined the steps of this great man. He proceeded from life: Dogmatism, empty theorizing, moralizing, and the fanaticism of sectarianism were quite alien to him. All his life he guided himself by Marx's principle, not to deduce reality from principles but principles from reality, and to fight for their victory. He stressed—I quote: For a real revolutionary, the greatest danger, and maybe the only danger, is to exaggerate revolutionary zeal, to ignore the limits for the suitable and successful use of revolutionary methods. Real revolutionaries failed most when they started to write revolution with a capital letter, when they made revolution into something almost divine, when they lost their heads and lost the ability to think coolly and with common sense.

When Lenin wrote this, he obviously was appealing to people who devoted their lives to revolutionary struggle, who expected speedy results from the revolution, who did not suspect how difficult would be the path of the people who won the power and decided to build a new socialist society. He saw how disappointed expections and illusions, which can be given in to so easily, create disappointment and faintheartedness. He saw how impatience leads to voluntarism, to efforts to leap over the stages of development, how it presses life into ideological schemes to dictate by decree forms for which the conditions still have not ripened. The lesson of the history of socialist construction shows us how wise Lenin's words were, that the cause of socialism is lost where soberness is lacking, where there is a lack of understanding to act strictly with regard to conditions given by history and by real possibilities, that it is necessary not to be afraid to admit defeat, to learn from it, to do many times over what has not been completed or was done badly.

All these errors and blunders, the source of which is ignorance of the objective rules of development, and subjectivism which, in addition, is often connected with the authoritarian approach of people who consider themselves above error, can always be used by our enemies. It would be against the logic of the class struggle should this not happen. In our country, we had a good illustration of this at the end of the sixties. The lesson we learned then must not be forgotten. As is known, frivolity in dealing with historical lessons does not pay. Therefore, we emphasize so heavily that the basic terms used in political struggle must be clearly defined, that their specific content—how people understand them, how they use them or manipulate them—must always be obvious. The actions of right-wing forces aimed against socialism, however much they were camouflaged by prosocialist phraseology, cannot be identified with today's restructuring, as do those who speculate that restructuring earlier or later would lead to the destabilisation of the socialist system.

Let us remember how Lenin was not afraid to pinpoint the Kronstadt uprising, which pretended to be for the government of the soviets but without the Bolsheviks, as open counterrevolution. He always called things by their real names.

We do not hide the fact that the source of difficulties in the sixties gradually grew into crisis-ridden developments that were the management methods and approaches that deformed socialism. Their roots...in reality have been attacked only by the current restructuring. Its aims can be successfully reached by Leninism, in the spirit of the principles of this creative teaching, with awareness of the great responsibility before the working people, with the irreconcilable critical view of everything that damages socialism, and with enormous respect for the revolutionary work of preceding generations of fighters for socialism.

It would, however, completely contradict the scientific character of socialism should we change this respect into a fetish, should we adhere to the past under any pretext—or should we forget that we must concentrate above all on continuity, which secures the continuation of revolution, that we must not neglect anything brought by progress, and that we must always react promptly to new phenomena and needs.

The actual study of the history of building socialism is acquiring practical value, for it not only proves the greatness of past struggle, but also its limited character; it offers experience of how to avoid blunders, how to work better. Leninist principles of adhering to truth and of talking openly concern not only the given situation but also the past. That is why restructuring is inevitably connected with reassessing yesterday's experiences that point to the incorrect nature of old methods. Without a critical view of these methods, restructuring would be, at most, a replacement of, or an adjustment to, the facade. That is why comprehensive understanding of restructuring, which was adopted at the Seventh Session of the CPCZ Central Committee and worked into a complete platform, stems from this principled criticism.

The consequence of this, as has already been mentioned—the demand for radically transforming the entire system of management and planning of the economy and overcoming economic mechanisms which, for a long time, have kept alive the obviously anachronistic type of extensive reproduction—is forcing the economy toward disproportionately high production consumption and causing unnecessary losses. This demand is an obstacle to restructuring the production base and implementing the results of scientific-technological revolution, and prevents the economy from flexibly reacting to the needs of internal and foreign trade and respecting developmental trends.

To do away with such anomalies, which contradict the mission of production under socialism and which, sooner or later, will lead to social tensions, it is necessary for truly profound action to be taken to alter the current structure of the methods of managing the economy in all its links—a resolute transition from administratively directive form of management to predominantly economic management. Hand in hand with this, there also must be necessary changes in the social sphere. One cannot continue to suffer egalitarianism and various forms of social injustice, spoiling human labor.

It is also necessary to create the relevant politically and ideologically moral atmosphere which would help changes connected with restructuring. Such an atmosphere, however, can be created and can last only where the values of socialism are not only discussed but implemented. Only on the basis of this comprehensive attitude toward restructuring that we have chosen will restructuring have an irreversible character—it will become, as a positive apptoach to it will show, a cause for all people. In this rests the deep meaning of democratization.

Socialist democracy in its Leninist concept is essentially different from bourgeois democracy. Above all, it is not self-perpetuating, formal, or something that cannot influence ownership relations and power structures which correspond to it and are more or less anonymous. Rather, it is an instrument for activating the human factor, expanding and deepening people's participation in management, forming people's self-administration, and involving workers and citizens in joint work. It is the building of a new, socially just society.

What matters and must matter for us, is to see the real interest in public affairs grow everywhere, concern for the results of work on which the well-being of an individual and his nearest and dearest depends, and also for the advancement of all of society, so that the working people are real managers and protectors of the common property of their states. Socialism has created a reliable basis for this state of affairs.

We do not exclude anyone from this creative activity for the benefit of socialism and participation in this joint aim. However, we shall not legalize the activity of opposition elements—those who show hostility toward the socialist system, as their protectors in the West would wish. Also, we shall not ignore the attempts to abuse religious organizations for the display of such hostility. The activity of the churches is rendered possible and guaranteed by our law. We consider them an integral part of our society. The great majority of believers and clergy are aware of this and keep their distance from the attempts to create a confrontation between the state and the churches, which has nothing in common with the protection of religious freedom or human rights.

The process of democratization, too, has its perils, which must be seen. They occur where it is ignored that socialism, as Lenin demanded, must be a highly organized society, based on the awareness of the masses. The socialist state, he used to stress, is strong particularly through this knowledge of the working people. Therefore, he paid exceptional attention to the cultural revolution, to the growth of education and civic awareness of the people, and to all ideological work.

However, it is not possible to form a person for a new society, an era of socialism, a conscientious and responsible manager and administrator of a country merely by means of propaganda and culture. The basis of transformations in the ways the people think are changes in the conditions of their lives, their experiences. Achieving these changes and thus influencing the people's experiences is possible through an active policy at all sections and by means of constant persuation. Liberation of the working people is not only a matter for the social and economic sphere. It also concerns, last but not least, their spiritual life, world outlook, and value system.

All revolutions and progressive movements, as soon as material conditions are ripe for them, can be fought and won only if the masses realize this necessity. This is valid, above all, for the socialist revolution, revolutionary transformations, leading toward building socialism and communism.

Lenin's words that theory cannot be revolutionary practice are valid more than ever before. One cannot tackle any partial question if the concept of the policy on the whole process is not clear, if the strategy, based on science, is not worked out. Moreover, the significance of the theory grows in proportion to how management of society becomes more comprehensive, how it must react to increasingly more complicated conditioning of relations being formed between the individual spheres of society, as well as its development as a whole, and the bold changes which are taking place in the world.

The shortage of theoretically based work, analysis of syntheses, verified prognoses, constant and absolutely objective research of reality, is one of the most grave causes of losses which occur in our society. Moreover, it supports subjectivism and voluntarism in policy: pragmatism veiled, as a rule, by dogmatism, by showy propaganda. The problems of developing theoretical work were talked about recently at the meeting between the employees of the Advanced College of Politics of the CPCZ Central Committee and the Institute of Marxism-Leninism of the CPCZ Central Committee and Comrade Milos Jakes. He stressed that restructuring and democratization lay great demands on all kinds of ideological work. We shall discuss the tasks in this area at one of the coming sessions of the Central Committee, without, however, waiting for what it will bring.

The tasks are pressing even in this sector. It is especially necessary to intensify this activity in the interests of broad and consistent implementation of the Leninist principle of public information and openess of the policy. Truthful, objective and timely information has a value which is difficult to overestimate. It is vitally important for restructuring, for the process of democratization, its basic component. We must base our entire propaganda on it. Great responsibility in this respect is borne by the communication media which is a forum for a democratic exchange of views and experiences, which influence to an exceptional degree the formation of public opinion, social awareness, and which also fulfill an important organizational role.

With criticism and discussion, there is, inevitably, also conflict. In a truly topical dialogue, one cannot avoid argument. With differing opinions, for which one has to create space in all sectors of society's life, particularly in the interests of supporting the people's initiatives, their creative nature and bold search for the paths leading toward solving problems, our communication media must help people to orient themselves correctly.

Our people decided in favor of socialism once and for all. This was their free choice 40 years ago. Our press, radio and television, all means and instruments of propaganda in our country must therefore act in the interests of advancing socialism and reinforcing the principles on which it is based.

The demand to think in a new way is purposeful only if it is understood as an appeal to cope with the needs of progress and with changes brought about by life, to overcome the barrier of stereotypes and of ideas which are not in harmony with our times. This is an appeal for learning the creative method of Marxism-Leninism—its lively revolutionary materialist dialectic. This and only this is the basis of what we call the new way of thinking. It teaches and obliges people to respect reality in its fullness and contradictions, in continuous changes, the meaning of which can be understood only on the basis of learning the objective laws of development, on the basis of—as Lenin said—the concrete analysis of a specific situation.

And what is important to realize in particular in our times: Dialectics does not rest, as Lenin pointed out, in pure negation. Not too speedy negation, not skeptical negation, not swaying doubts, characteristic and substantial in dialectics, but negation as a part of connections, as a part of development, underlining its positive elements, that is without swaying and eclecticism.

It is worthwhile to analyze this Leninist characteristc of dialectics. By its application to restructuring, the creative and constructive character of this entire process becomes apparent—the process which we are starting to implement and which requires a responsible approach—cleared of any negativism, of thoughtless criticism, opportunism and superficiality.

Comrades, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin organically linked socialism with peace. Particularly in our time we realize in full depth and strength the humanity of the Leninist conception of socialism, when socialism has become a world factor, a force which realistically influences the future of mankind and is also able to face danger—the source of which is the expansionism of imperialism.

To preserve peace, for humankind to survive, to preserve humanity and to further advance civilization, everything must be done. We do not want confrontation, we do not want to sharpen tension by continuously accummulating weapons, we do not want threats, but we want cooperation, disarmament, securing peaceful coexistence of the states of all social systems, respecting sovereignty and the will of the peoples of all countries, the reinforcement of confidence—these are the basic requirements of today.

They determine the content of new political thinking, which is promoted by the USSR and welcomed by an ever greater number of people in the world who think in a sober way. By pushing through these ideas, wide world public opinion is formed which, as it seems, cannot be quite ignored by the supporters of the continuation of the cold war.

We know that the process of detente and gradual disarmament, of restoration of confidence and cooperation, is very difficult. We, however, witness the growth of antiwar movements and the tenacity and purposefulness with which the USSR acts and, therefore, we are optimists. We are convinced that the next positive step on this difficult but so very desirable way will be the meeting of the supreme representatives of the USSR and the United States in Moscow.

As was said on more than one occasion, at the most authoritative places, our party and all Czechoslovak people will fully and unconditionally support every step leading to reinforcing and securing peace and overcoming conflict and tension in today's world. In this direction we will continue to play an active part in the organization of the Warsaw Pact and at all accessible international forums. The proposal of Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, delivered at the gala meeting to mark the 40th anniversary of Victorious February is an expression of this active approach: to create gradually on the line of contact between the states good neighborly relations. This proposal evokes favorable reaction at many places and is considered an important initiative for organizing peaceful life in the joint European house.

In the fight for peace and for increasing the role of socialism in this historically most responsible struggle we see the criterion of our loyalty to the bequest of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, to his work and creative teaching. We will continue to be guided by the ideas of Leninism, its principles. We will continue to be inspired by these ideas and principles in our effort for new socialist victories, for its development in our country and the growth of its influence all-round the world. Long live Leninism, long live socialism and peace.

Federal Statistical Office Issues Report

AU212011 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 16 Apr 88 p 2

["Report of the Federal Statistical Office on the Development of the CSSR National Economy and the Fulfillment of the State Plan in the First Quarter 1988"—boldface passages as published]

[Text] **The Federal Statistical Office has published a report on the development of the CSSR national economy and the fulfillment of the state plan in the first quarter 1988, which states, among other things:**

The tasks of the enterprises' economic plans regarding volumes of production in key manufacturing sectors were fulfilled in the first quarter of 1988, and the pace of growth was faster than envisaged in the annual state plan. However, the relatively high dynamism was in particular influenced by the favorable weather in the first 2 months of the year; the pace of the growth in production slowed down in March. At the same time, there was 1 more work day and 1 more calendar day in the quarter.

However, while quantitative indicators were fulfilled or exceeded, the qualitative indicators of development were not adequately fulfilled. Enterprises did not make full use of the favorable weather at the beginning of the year. Despite lower consumption of energy and of motor and other fuels, the planned cost reduction was not achieved. This also negatively influenced the fulfillment of the plan for the generation of profits and the observance of the planned relations toward the state budget.

The growth of production was not ensured in terms of the necessary structure, range, and quality of products, and this resulted in the further accumulation of inventories. Their turnover time in industrial and construction enterprises became longer.

The fulfillment of planned tasks in individual enterprises varied. Compared with the first quarter of last year, the fulfillment of tasks was smoother and more comprehensive. We are currently gaining preliminary experience from the introduction of some elements of the new economic mechanism in practice. The comprehensive experiment in increasing the independence and accountability of economic organizations for efficient development was being implemented in 346 organizations.

It has been estimated that investment funds to the tune of Kcs29 billion were put into the national economy (excluding the "Z"-project [community self-help] and private construction), which is more than in the same period last year.

The establishment of new forms of cooperation with the CEMA member states continued. We did not succeed in increasing exports to both the socialist and nonsocialist states to the planned extent, and in relation to the annual plan their proportion was low.

The personal consumption of the population rose faster than the plan envisaged. Its growth was affected by a number of influences, especially by the above-plan growth of the population's monetary incomes and expenditure. Local and range-related shortcomings cropped up in the supply of foodstuffs to the domestic market. Demand for a number of industrial products of a fashionable or luxury nature, as well as for some everyday products was not fully satisfied. The results of this year's first quarter stress the need for a consistent orientation toward intensifying and raising the effectiveness of the development of the national economy, with the objective of fulfilling the tasks of the 1988 state plan in all spheres.

Industrial production in centrally planned industry rose by 3.8 percent; the annual state plan specifies a 2.3 percent growth. Average daily production (under the influence of the projected around-the-clock operations) rose by 2.3 percent. A total of 25 percent of the annual state plan was fulfilled. In total, the economic plans for gross production were fulfilled 101.2 percent, and the plans for goods production 101.4 percent. While the plan was exceeded on aggregate, 194 enterprises did not fulfill their economic plans, that is, 22 percent of the total number. In the first quarter of last year this figure was 39.2 percent. Enterprises that fell short of the plan fulfillment caused a gross production shortfall of Kcs2.1 billion, and a Kcs1.2 billion shortfall in goods production.

The volume of adjusted net output in centrally planned industry rose by 8.2 percent; the annual state plan envisages a 5.9 percent growth. Enterprises fulfilled their economic plans 102 percent. Of the total number of enterprises, 18.2 percent did not fulfill the plan for adjusted net output; in the first quarter of last year this figure was 34.9 percent.

Labor productivity in centrally planned industry calculated from the volume of adjusted net output rose by 8.2 percent, and from gross production by 3.8 percent; the annual state plan envisages a 1.3 percent increase.

The proportion of costs in the volume of output dropped in January and February—compared with the same period last year—by 1.56 points but the planned drop was not achieved. In particular, the proportion of material costs was 0.26 of a point higher than envisaged by the plan, and financial costs were 0.75 of a point higher.

In January and February the overall value of sales in the centrally planned industry rose by 4 percent in wholesale prices. The economic plans were exceeded in all main areas of deliveries, even though some enterprises did not fulfill their planned tasks. The volume of machinery and equipment for investments rose by 4 percent. The volume of deliveries for export to the socialist countries rose by 11.4 percent, and to the nonsocialist countries by 24.4 percent. Deliveries to the domestic market increased by 7.3 percent. The remaining sales increased by 1.8 percent.

The development of industrial production varied considerably in the first quarter. The industrial production of building materials; production in the electrical engineering industry; timber processing; the glass, ceramics, and china industries; and ore mining underwent the largest growth. Because of the favorable winter weather, the production of heat, electricity, and gas was reduced. Generation in thermal power plants dropped by 8.5 percent, whereas generation of electricity in nuclear power plants rose by 18.3 percent.

Despite the increased production, problems continue with the supply of spare parts, and the production sector did not adjust satisfactorily to the population's demand for a considerable number of industrial products.

The **course of agricultural work thus far** and the results in the production of animal produce establish good prerequisites for the fulfillment of planned tasks. Preliminary surveys rate the state of winter grain crops, which were sown on 1,626,000 hectares (2.1 percent more than a year ago), as positive; this year's spring agricultural chores were also started earlier than last year. By 5 April 1988, spring grain crops had been sown on 128,000 hectares (20.3 percent of the projected area), pulses on 18,000 hectares (17.9 percent of the projected area), and early potatoes on 3,000 hectares (which is 26.5 percent of the projected area).

As for **the production of animal produce,** livestock yields were higher than in the same period last year, which had a favorable influence on output and thereby also on the fulfillment of the procurement timetable for all products of animal origin. Daily milk yields averaged 9.19 liters in the first 2 months of this year (compared with 9.09 liters in the same period last year), and 16.69 calves (compared with 16.18 calves last year) per 100 cows and 3.00 piglets (compared with 2.89 piglets last year) per 1 sow were weaned in the January-February period.

The procurement level of the first quarter of last year was exceeded for all products of animal origin, with the exception of milk. The procurement timetable for all animal products was overfulfilled.

Building companies using their own employees carried out construction projects worth Kcs20.9 billion, which was 12.9 percent more than in the same period last year. The 1988 state plan provides for a 0.4 percent decline in building output. The dynamism in the building trade in the months of January and February was influenced by the extremely favorable weather conditions; in March, when this exceptional factor ceased to operate, this dynamism substantially decreased.

The **volume of adjusted net output** totalled Kcs8.6 billion and was 17.8 percent higher than in the same period in 1987.

Whereas the economic plans were overfulfilled on aggregate, 14.7 percent of construction enterprises (and as many as 38.8 percent of enterprises in March alone) fell short of the planned tasks, and 11.6 percent of enterprises (32.8 percent in March) fell short of the planned level of adjusted net output.

Labor productivity of employees of construction enterprises calculated on the basis of building output was 12.8 percent higher than in the same period last year; labor productivity calculated on the basis of adjusted net output exceeded last year's level by 17.7 percent.

Construction enterprises failed to meet the set tasks concerning the development of financial management indexes. In the January-February period, the proportion of material costs in output was 0.75 percent higher than planned, and material inputs were 1.44 percent higher than planned.

Construction enterprises employed an average of 567,000 persons, which was 500 more than in the same period of 1987.

Construction enterprises supplied 3,234 completed apartments to national committees in the first quarter of the year, 504 more than in the same period last year. Only 4.8 percent of the annual housing construction plan was fulfilled in the first quarter, which shows that even this year the pace of apartment completion continues to be uneven. Taking account of all forms of housing construction, the number of completed apartments in the January-March period totalled 8,059; 152 more than in the same period last year.

Public freight transportation carried 154.2 million tonnes of cargo, which was 12 percent more than in the first quarter of 1987. The transportation plan was fulfilled 105.8 percent. The CSD [Czechoslovak State Railroads] accounted for 46.3 percent, the CSAD [Czechoslovak Automobile Transportation] for 51.9 percent, and river transportation for 1.8 percent of public freight transportation.

The CSD's railroad transportation carried 71.3 million tonnes of goods, 12.2 percent more than in the same period last year, and the economic plan was fulfilled 103.6 percent. Railroad loading consisted of 21.2 million tonnes of solid fuels, 2.6 million tonnes of ores, 7.5 million tonnes of metallurgical and engineering products, and 11 million tonnes of building materials. Average daily loading in terms of railroad car units increased 8.9 percent. Turnaround times per railroad car unit averaged 4.02 days; 6.3 percent less than in the first 3 months of last year.

The **CSAD's road transportation division** carried 80 million tonnes of goods, which was an increase of 10.4 percent.

River transportation carried 2.8 million tonnes of goods, 82 percent more than in the first quarter of 1987. Yet shippers still failed to make full use of the favorable navigation conditions in January and February.

Foreign trade: Following a pronounced growth in the volume of exports to both socialist and nonsocialist countries in the first 2 months of the year, March saw exports to both territories decline again. A total of 22.3 percent of the annual export plan was fulfilled by the end of March—22.9 percent of the planned exports to socialist countries and 21.1 percent of planned exports to nonsocialist states. The annual import plan was fulfilled 20.9 percent—22.1 percent with regard to socialist countries and 18.6 percent with regard to nonsocialist states.

The **volume of investment work and deliveries** (excluding the "Z"-project and private construction) is estimated to have reached Kcs29 billion in the first quarter and—contrary to the targets of the state plan, which foresee a moderate decline in investments this year—was higher than in the same period last year. A considerable increase was recorded, in particular, in the volume of building work and in deliveries of machinery and equipment not included in the projects' budgets.

Of the 108 capacities designated as mandatory tasks of the state plan that are planned to go into pilot operation in 1988, 10 were handed over by the end of February. These were, for instance, the following capacities: the continuous tank in the Desna plant of the Jablonec Glass Works; the Float-2 production line in the Sklo-Union plant in Teplice; the K-11 boiler in Steti; preparation of petrochemical feedstock in the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Chemical Works in Litvinov; the first stage in the electrification of the Leopoldov-Puchov railroad section; the Cerna za Bory-Pardubice heat conduit; and additional capacities on the transit gas pipeline.

The trend of the last few years in the **development of living standards** was perpetuated; monetary income and expenditures of the public increased, but goods and services were not supplied with the required quality and variety.

Nominal monetary incomes of the public in the January to February period were 3.5 percent higher than in the same period of the preceding year, and amounted to Kcs70.7 billion. Monthly earnings of industrial employees in January and February averaged Kcs3,097; 3.2

percent more than in the same period of the preceding year. Average monthly earnings of employees in the construction sector stood at Kcs3,185, which was an increase of 5.8 percent.

Monetary expenditures of the public on purchases of goods and services and on financial payments in January-February 1988 were 6.1 percent higher than in January-February 1987, and totaled Kcs63.7 billion. At the end of February, the population's deposits with branches of the State Savings Bank reached the sum of Kcs255.9 billion, and loans the sum of Kcs41.3 billion.

The **index of the retail prices of goods and services** was 0.2 percent higher than in the first quarter of last year. It remained unchanged with respect to food products, increased 0.2 percent for industrial merchandise, remained at the level of the first quarter of 1987 in public catering, and increased 0.9 percent for paid services. The index of households' cost of living increased 0.3 percent.

The **retail trade turnover** of the main retailing networks was 7 percent higher than in the first quarter of last year, and totaled Kcs60.6 billion in current prices. The annual state plan for the main networks foresees a 1.1-percent increase in turnover. The economic plans for the growth of retail trade turnover were fulfilled 104.4 percent on aggregate. The largest overfulfillment of planned retail trade turnover was achieved by outlets of the Klenoty [Jewels] (118 percent), Nabytek [Furniture] (109.8 percent), and Textil [Textiles] (107.4) retailing networks, as well as by public catering organizations administered by Cedok [Czechoslovak Travel Bureau] (107.0 percent).

The growth of retail trade turnover was influenced, especially in March, by increased purchases prior to the Easter holidays, and by an increase in tourist traffic.

While the market for staple foods was covered with regard to general terms, there were shortcomings in the variety and evenness of supplies of meat and dairy products, as well as some other foods and spices. Sales of greenhouse vegetables and subtropical fruit increased.

As for industrial merchandise, trade organizations did not fully meet demand for textiles, garments, baby outfits and provisions, cotton underwear, stockings and pantyhose, and footwear. Despite increased deliveries of some electrotechnical and engineering products, the market needs for, for example, color television sets, freezers, and sports bicycles were not fully satisfied. There were also problems in meeting demand for some passenger car models.

The population of the CSSR totaled 15,593,000 at the end of March.

Chnoupek Plans Visit to Egypt 25-28 Apr

LD220947 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0900 GMT 22 Apr 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek will pay an official visit to Egypt 25-28 April. He will have talks with Ahmad 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, at whose invitation the visit is taking place. The two representatives will discuss the implementation of the conclusions of Al-Majid's visit to our country in 1986, as well as other possibilities of the development of cooperation.

Israel Blamed for Al-Wazir Murder

AU201127 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 19 Apr 88 p 7

[Jan Kovarik article in the "Notes" column: "The Murderer Sits in Tel Aviv"]

[Text] Treacherously and under cover of darkness Israeli terrorists have carried out their "heroic" deed—the murder of Abu Jihad, an important PLO official, in cold blood, without mercy, before the eyes of his family. In precisely the same way other murdering commandos are firing into defenseless crowds in the occupied Arab territories. On Saturday they left behind them 20 lives on the paving stones or Arab villages or in the dust of the roads.

Unarmed Palestinians send shivers of horror down Tel Aviv's spine because they courageously pursue their just cause, the dignity of life in their own country, which even after more than 20 years of Israeli rape has not been forced to its knees. Where lies the source of the strength of the unarmed Palestinian men and women? Where do their tranquility and conviction stem from, courage with which they go into a seemingly lost struggle?

There are more such questions which people all over the world are asking themselves when they look at photographs that since December, when the uprising started, have been stirring the conscience of mankind. The answer is simple, covered by a single sentence—the Palestinians have the right, the truth on their side. How many times has Israeli propaganda depicted them only as terrorists who murder indiscriminately, who shoot at anything living. The world has not conceived hatred for them and did not believe Tel Aviv, despite the fact that Israel has the United States and almost the entire bourgeois propaganda at its side. They would like to make a terrorist of Abu Jihad, too, so that the dead man would not give them such fright.

The murderer sits in Tel Aviv. For dozens of years he has been trying to control the Arab country, promises money, blows up homes, tortures, and murders. He harbors the illusion that by destroying the Palestinian leaders they themselves will surrender. Abu Jihad is neither the first nor, apparently, the last victim. He lived for his people, he fell, cut down, for a just cause. His blood stains the Israeli Government, which guided the hands that killed, which gave the instruction for yet another in the series of terrorist actions.

Terrorism Condemned, Measures Called For

AU221021 Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak 21 Apr 88 p 7

["BJ"-signed article: "It Was Not Only the Drama of a Kuwaiti Plane; Do We Have to Live With Terrorism?"]

[Text] The drama of the hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner ended on the 16th day. The hijackers released the remaining 31 hostages at Algiers Airport yesterday. At the end of their brutal game they tried to present themselves as a club of the merciful, who "took mercy" upon their victims and even demanded applause from the world public in view of this.

Let us recall the basic facts of the drama. A Kuwait Airlines Boeing 747 took off from Bangkok on 5 April. During the flight the plane was seized by terrorists who demanded that 17 members of a terrorist group, which calls itself the Organization of the Islamic Holy War, be set free. Those 17 were in jail in Kuwait for bomb attacks on the French and U.S. Embassies, in which 6 people perished in 1983.

The hijacked plane landed subsequently in Iran, Cyprus, and Algeria. From beginning to end the number of hijackers was not clear, and it has even been asserted that their number increased during the stopover in Iran. At Larnaca Airport in Cyprus the hijackers murdered two Kuwaiti citizens and, to demonstrate their resolve, threw their bodies onto the tarmac. The bodies showed signs of torture.

When all is said and done, these "fighters" mercilessly tortured all the hostages. They denied them the basic necessities of life, kept them tied to their seats, forbade them to talk among themselves, and even to sleep. The hygiene conditions in the plane were incredible—heat, stench, and despair. The hijackers are, without doubt, an especially dangerous type of people who, within the framework of their political ideas and illusions, do not recognize any human values and are always willing to sacrifice innocent people.

Let us recall that "fighters" of this type usually show exceptional concern for their own lives. As long as they reckon they are going to win, they kill, and later they are only interested in slipping out, in extorting safe conduct for themselves. Let us notice: Most of these spectacular terrorist actions in recent years have been oriented toward enforcing the release of their friends from jails, into which they have been put for the murder of innocent people. They call this "revolutionary policy."

This is the case here, too. In the final act of the drama, the ruthless murderers and torturers of the passengers of the Kuwaiti plane concentrated on their own fate and their own safety. Agency reports agree that they released their hostages in exchange for a guarantee of a safe departure for a not further identified country. According to the same reports, at Algiers Airport they had a private plane at their disposal, which took off for an "unknown destination." This was happening at the same time as their victims were with difficulty beginning to recover from their shocking experience—and quite a few of them will never recover from it.

It is really high time for the world to agree on effective measures to suppress terrorism, which has become one of the worse scourges of our time. It is no longer acceptable for someone to play mercilessly with people's lives—on the pretext of "great political goals"—and by means of ruthless blackmail get away with it with impunity. Do we, perhaps, want to live to see the day when someone might threaten to detonate an illegally homemade nuclear charge when his demands are not complied with? Certainly not. Something must be done to prevent this already today.

U.S. Involvement in Gulf Conflict Criticized

AU201543 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 19 Apr 88 p 7

[Milan Rusko article: "Commentator's Opinion"]

[Text] The United States shed its last scruples and has become openly involved in the war between Iraq and Iran. American vessels started things by attacking the Iranian oil platforms Sassan and Al-Bakr near the island of Sirri. A series of mutual attacks followed. It has not ended yet.

The highest American quarters have misused an incident in which the frigate Samuel Roberts was damaged last Wednesday—as a pretext for the attack. The frigate is one of the 17 U.S. vessels operating in the Persian Gulf. Thus far it has not been confirmed that the frigate was damaged by a depth mine, and even less that it was an Iranian mine. But the United States launched the attack on Iran nevertheless. Tension has been escalating ever since vessels carrying American flags came in the Persian Gulf, and Washington has not convinced anyone that this has strengthened security. On the contrary, since the beginning, it has been obvious that the United States has only been waiting for an opportunity to get "involved" in the conflict. The United States has refused to support efforts to find a peaceful solution to the situation and to support the Soviet proposal that international UN forces achieve control of the developments in the region and gradually stop the fighting between the warring states. Its show of strength has now turned into direct military attacks. This expands the dimensions of the conflict and imperils the security of the entire subcontinent. The "muddy waters" of the regional conflict in which the United States is fishing is turning blood-red because of the United States.

SFRY Rozic-Led Delegation Pays Official Visit

Visits Prague Cooperative

LD191947 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak
1800 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] The delegation of the SFRY Assembly headed by Marjan Rozic visited this afternoon the Mier united farming cooperative at Jesenice in the Prague West district. The deputies acquainted themselves there with the production and social program and praised the high standard of the work results of cooperative farm members.

Indra Hosts Dinner

LD200442 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1430 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Alois Indra, Presidium member of the CPCZ Central Committee, chairman of the Federal Assembly, gave a festive dinner in Prague today in honor of the delegation of SFRY Skupstina, headed by its president, Marjan Rozic. Taking part in the dinner were Bohuslav Chnoupek, minister of foreign affairs, and other representatives of our political and public life. The dinner was held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Indra, Rozic Speak at Dinner

LD192127 Belgrade TANJUG in English
2110 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Prague, Apr 19 (TANJUG)—Czechoslovak-Yugoslav party and state relations are developing successfully upon the principles of equality, independence, non-interference, and respect of the specific roads of socialist construction—said tonight Alois Indra, Czechoslovak parliament speaker.

At a dinner given to honour a Yugoslav parliamentary delegation headed by President of the Yugoslav Assembly Marjan Rozic, Alois Indra, referring to international questions, said that this was an era of turnabouts, from confrontations towards peaceable cooperation. In Prague, however, he added, no extreme hopes are being nurtured in this respect.

Marjan Rozic emphasized that the two countries have all the necessary conditions "to raise the different initiatives more courageously." He pledged himself for up-to-date and superior forms of economic cooperation to be introduced in economic relations.

As for international questions, Rozic underscored the great significance of the present easing of tensions thanks also, as he said, to the current dialogues and understandings between the two superpowers.

Indra Receives Delegation

LD201322 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak
1200 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] Alois Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the Federal Assembly, today in Prague received a delegation of the SFRY Assembly led by its President, Marjan Rozic.

Alois Indra informed the guests about the principles and goals of complex restructuring and said that the CPCZ is relying on positive experiences from other socialist countries. He said that the intentions of restructuring can be unfavorably influenced by nonfulfillment of the tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan, in particular, in qualitative indicators. But it could also be damaged by marking time and insufficient courage to solve existing problems. Alois Indra also pointed out the inevitability of democratization of society, and he explained some of its aspects to the Yugoslav deputies.

Speaking about the present international situation, he spoke highly of Yugoslav activity in the nonaligned movement and the support it gives to Czechoslovak peace initiatives.

Marjan Rozic summarized the results of political, economic, and social development of Yugoslavia which, despite successes, is also accompanied by some problems and shortcomings which have culminated in the present very serious situation. He also mentioned the long-term complicated situation in Kosovo and spoke of the fulfillment of the anti-inflation program.

Jakes Receives Delegation

LD211512 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1400 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, received in Prague today the delegation of the SFRY assembly, headed by its chairman, Marjan Rozic. He briefed the Yugoslav guests on the fulfillment of the conclusions of the 17th CPCZ Congress on the progress in implementing the comprehensive program of restructuring, economic reforms, and democratization of social life in Czechoslovakia. He briefed them on the results of the talks at the seventh and ninth sessions of the party's Central Committee which set up specific tasks for the party organs and organizations in the process of all-round improvement of the content, style, and method of their work. He said that the CPCZ is in the vanguard of restructuring, creating the necessary conditions and prerequisites, while striving constantly to strengthen unity and action ability of party organs and organizations, to promote active, creative approaches from all the Communists. The current party district conferences confirm that this purposeful and demanding orientation is finding a lot of support among the Communists, as well as among nonparty members.

Marjan Rozic spoke about the most important issues tackled by Yugoslavia in the current stage of its social and economic development. He briefed Milos Jakes on the results of the visit of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to Yugoslavia in March and also briefed him on the preparation of the coming SFRY conference [as heard].

Assessing current international political development, the two representatives agreed that the main task today is to activate the struggle to avert the threat of nuclear war, to preserve peace, to promote disarmament, and to strengthen security on the European continent, as well as the world over.

Milos Jakes and Marjan Rozic noted with satisfaction that relations between the two countries, as well as the two fraternal parties are intensive, stable, and comprehensive, and spoke in favor of their further dynamic development

Further Report

LD211735 Prague CTK in English 1506 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 21 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes received here today a delegation of the Yugoslav parliament (Savezna Skupstina), led by its president Marjan Rozic.

Milos Jakes said on this occasion that the Czechoslovak Communist Party is at the head of the reconstruction process in the country, and creates for itself necessary conditions and prerequisites and strives for the strengthening of the unity and action ability of party bodies and organizations and for active creative approaches of all communists. The current district party conferences confirm this orientation is meeting with a wide support of the Communists.

Marjan Rozic informed Milos Jakes of the results of a visit to Yugoslavia by Mikhail Gorbachev last March and of the preparations for a nearing conference of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia.

The two representatives agreed that the main task of today is to activate the struggle for averting the threat of a nuclear war, for peace, disarmament and strengthening security in Europe and in the world.

They stated that relations between Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia and between the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia are intensive, stable and broad and voiced support for their further dynamic development.

Ends Visit

LD211741 Prague CTK in English 1544 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 21 (CTK)—A delegation of the Yugoslav parliament (Savezna Skupstina), led by its President Marjan Rozic, ended its official visit to Czechoslovakia and left for home today.

The delegation was seen off at Prague Airport by Chairman of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly Alois Indra at whose invitation the visit took place.

Prior to his departure Marjan Rozic told journalists he considered the visit very successful. He said that the members of the Yugoslav delegation and Czechoslovak deputies openly spoke about the building of socialism in their countries and that they stated that Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia proceed in this process from their specific conditions but always with the effort to give socialism a new quality.

He said the representaties of the two countries' legislative bodies agreed that cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia could be expanded in the economic, scientific and technical spheres as well as in exchanging technologies and information and in other fields.

Referring to talks on international topics, the Yugoslav representative said the situation in the world remains tense and serious but that there are growing tendencies towards the relaxation of tension. Both large and small countries must actively join this process, he added.

In this connection Marjan Rozic appreciated Czechoslovakia's proposal for the creation of a zone of confidence, cooperation and good neighbourly relations on the line dividing the Warsaw Treaty and NATO member states, put forward by Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes. According to Marjan Rozic, the proposal could greatly contribute to improving the climate in Europe.

He also pointed to some possibilities of developing closer contacts in the activities of the two countries' parliaments.

Husak's USSR Visit Reviewed

AU211727 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 16 Apr 88 p 7

[Jarmila Houfova commentary in the "We Comment" column: "Path of Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Text] The official friendly visit paid by Comrade Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and CSSR president, to the USSR at the invitation of USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was one of the most important events of this week, an event related to our life.

The visit was widely publicized in our own and in the Soviet press. Still, I would like to review some of its aspects. I was witness to the atmosphere in which the trip of the head of our state and his entourage took place, noted the people's reactions to it, and felt the warm sentiment harbored by Soviet citizens toward us as a fraternal socialist country.

The atmosphere of the visit was, above all, one of mutual esteem, respect, and cordiality; it was a working visit and (this was most important) the language of the talks was a common language. By this I do not mean Russian, I mean their essential contents—the concordant ideas and goals strikingly marked by restructuring, the unanimous views on the whole complex of international-political issues, and the mutual recognition and support of the process taking place under the specific domestic conditions of the USSR and our fatherland.

The visit was a significant link in the chain of lively, dynamic USSR-CSSR relations, which have undoubtedly received a new stimulus, a new positive charge after the visit paid to our country by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, last year and the visit paid by Comrade Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, to the USSR this year. This became fully apparent during Comrade Gustav Husak's present negotiations in the USSR.

They dealt quite specifically with ways of implementing the agreements concluded during the summit talks (which are to raise our mutual relations to a qualitatively new level). The possibilities of comprehensively deepening and improving Czechoslovak-Soviet relations and coordinating our common standpoints on the basic issues of socialist construction and international policy are favorable.

Understandably, special attention was devoted to the economic and scientific-technical cooperation, the deepening of specialization and cooperation, the expansion of direct inter-enterprise production relations, and other new forms of cooperation via integration and the improvement of the structure of mutual trade. These goals are both realistic and attainable, fostered by the concept of CSSR-USSR economic and scientific-technical cooperation, which has been worked out for a 15-20-year period and which establishes good foundations for a dynamic development of bilateral relations, the attainment of leading positions in the most important areas of science, technology, and production, and the achievement of planned structural changes in the economies of both countries.

There is bilateral interest in this development, as was proved during Comrade Gustav Husak's talks with Kafik Nishanov, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee; they discussed specific possibilities of developing direct forms of economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the production and scientific-research spheres, particularly in the cotton-processing textile machine industry and in glass and china production.

The communique issued on the visit shows that neither side is satisfied with the results—on the contrary, they are looking for innovationist, activating paths. Obviously there are still untapped reserves for further developing cooperation in the ideological sphere, in culture, education, and science, along the lines of local and border contacts, in direct personal contacts. The setting-up of an intergovernmental commission for CSSR-USSR cooperation in culture, education, and science and the opening of a cultural and information center in Moscow (which is being prepared) will help consolidate our fraternal friendship and activate contacts in the spiritual sphere. The appropriate agreements have been signed during the visit.

I have begun by writing that the domestic issues were not the only ones to have been discussed in a common language, but that the language used in discussing international political issues was also a common one. This is nothing new, since we have always approached international political problems from identical positions. However, I will mention at least one thing here: Comrade Andrey Gromyko expressed full support for the CSSR's new significant comprehensive initiative on the establishment of a zone of confidence, cooperation, and good neighborly relations along the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO. Our Soviet comrades are as convinced as we are that the realization of this proposal would help normalize the overall political atmosphere on the continent and develop the pan-European process.

However, such and similar visits are not restricted to negotiation rooms alone—as a rule they also provide opportunities for coming into closer contact with the population. These encounters are brief, but they are revealing and most cordial. And such were also the encounters experienced by Comrade G. Husak and his whole entourage in Tashkent and Samarkand.

We sensed there on every step the admiration felt by the ordinary people for our country; they know quite a lot about us, and they are fond of us. They are filled with friendship toward our people. And it was also most apparent that they hold Comrade G. Husak's life work in high esteem, and respect him for all that he had done for the Czechoslovak-Soviet alliance and friendship in the past, and for all that he is doing for it now, in his office as head of state.

Honecker, FRG's Vogel Hold 'Constructive' Talk

LD211254 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1126 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Apr (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, had a talk with the prime minister of the FRG Federal State of Rhineland-Palatinate, Dr Bernhard Vogel, the current president of the FRG Bundesrat, at the official seat of the GDR State Council in Berlin on Thursday.

At the start of the exchange of views Dr Bernhard Vogel conveyed greetings from Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his colleagues in the Bundesrat, the prime ministers of the federal states. Erich Honecker reciprocated the greetings. In this connection Dr Bernhard Vogel stressed that the FRG, as expressed in the statements by Helmut Kohl, is determined to continue to advance along the path agreed in the joint communique of 7 September 1987. [East Berlin ADN International Service in German at 1422 GMT on 21 April transmits a correction to the date in the preceding sentence as follows: ...joint communique of 8 September 1987.]

Erich Honecker began by mentioning his meeting with Dr Bernhard Vogel in Trier during his official visit to the FRG on 10 September 1987. The two politicians said that since then there has been a series of positive changes both in the international situation and in bilateral relations. They praised the conclusion of the treaty between the USSR and the United States on the elimination of their intermediate-range missiles and stressed the need for a speedy ratification of that treaty. Erich Honecker referred to the advance concession made by the USSR, the GDR, and the CSSR with the early withdrawal and subsequent liquidation of Soviet intermediate-range missiles. The two sides agreed that there must not be any pause in the process of disarmament. Erich Honecker recalled the proposals of the GDR, CSSR, and the Polish People's Republic for the creation of zones free of battlefield nuclear weapons and chemical weapons as well as proposals for establishing a nonaggression capability for the armed forces both of the Warsaw Pact and NATO.

Disclosures about the two sides' armed forces and personnel strengths would be of great importance here. Dr Bernhard Vogel made it clear that these issues are very important in the overall complex of continuing disarmament in the nuclear and conventional sphere and with regard to banning chemical weapons of mass destruction.

Erich Honecker and Dr Bernhard Vogel agreed that relations between the two German states must remain a stabilizing factor for constructive East-West relations. Erich Honecker stressed that the GDR, proceeding from the results of his official visit to the FRG in September 1987, will continue its policy, aimed at peace preservation and businesslike cooperation, toward the FRG.

The two politicians exchanged views on interstate relations, paying special attention to relations between the GDR and the Federal State of Rhineland-Palatinate and agreeing to continue to expand them.

The talk took place in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere. It was attended by: Secretary of State Frank-Joachim Herrmann, head of the chancellery of the State Council chairman; and Hans Schindler, acting head of the FRG department in the GDR Foreign Ministry. Also present were the head of the FRG's permanent mission in the GDR, Dr Hans Otto Braeutigam, and Secretary of State Hanns-Eberhard Schleyer, head of the State Chancellery of the Federal State of Rhineland-Palatinate.

Vogel: Talks 'Open, Fair'

LD211846 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1334 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Apr (ADN)—Dr Bernhard Vogel, the prime minister of Rhineland-Palatinate and current president of the FRG Bundesrat, described his 1 and 1/2 hour talk with Erich Honecker on Thursday as open and fair. Speaking to the international press after this third meeting with Honecker, he stressed the latter's optimistic assessment of the situation. This applies both internationally and bilaterally as far as relations between the GDR and the Federal Republic are concerned, as well as to the situation in the GDR. It was stated with satisfaction that, happily, the agreement on the elimination of the intermediate-range missiles was brought about after the meetings last year, in February in the GDR and in Trier in September. He said that further progress in other arms control spheres must follow and that a far-reaching improvement in relations must not remain restricted to the military sphere.

It is particularly important for agreements and arms control to be reached in the conventional sphere. Erich Honecker spoke of his desire to see a reduction in asymmetries. The aim must be a nonaggression capacity in the two alliance systems. Bernhard Vogel said that this is in line with a worldwide elimination of chemical weapons as well as controlling them. Erich Honecker regards the stipulations of relevant zones as suitable steps toward this overall goal, said Bernhard Vogel, while he himself is optimistic enough to hope that a worldwide agreement can be reached in the forseeable future.

The two politicians addressed in detail the situations in the two countries. Proceeding from the preparations for the CDU federal congress in Wiesbaden in June, Bernhard Vogel stressed that the basic positions of the CDU remain unchanged. Its aim is, despite the existence of differences in basic positions, to do what is possible. The year 1987 has brought us progress in relations between the GDR and the Federal Republic, the politician said.

He singled out Erich Honecker's visit to the FRG, the increase in tourist traffic, the agreement on the supply of electricity as well as three other agreements. It is the FRG's desire that this path be continued. Vogel added: The State Council chairman was, happily, able to confirm that the development of tourist traffic is also positive in the first quarter of 1988, that there are no reductions but increases. He specifically described the rumors about planned limits on the reunification of families as fairy tales and confirmed that the GDR, too, wants to continue the path embarked on in relations between the Federal Republic and the GDR.

As far as developing economic relations is concerned, there is no reason for pessimism either. It could be said that economic relations with Rhineland-Palatinate have developed in an above average fashion. While deliveries from the FRG to the GDR have increased by 33 percent between 1981 and 1987, those from the federal state have increased 71 percent. The same applies to deliveries from the GDR to Rhineland-Palatinate.

Bernhard Vogel expressed satisfaction about the state reached in the town-twinning agreements and stressed those between Mainz and Erfurt, Ludwigshafen and Dessau, and Trier and Weimar. The task is now—it has been noted in agreement—to safeguard the success of the partnerships.

At the end of his remarks to the press at the FRG's Permanent Mission in the GDR, Bernhard Vogel stressed that the "European home" was also mentioned in the talk with Erich Honecker. In this, they agreed that the more confined conflicts become, the more German they become. It must be our overriding concern to do everything—also in our relations with our respective allies—to jointly bring about solutions to conflicts and to prevent conflicts between the two alliance systems and to ensure that we have a particularly responsible task in this.

DPA Reports Vogel Comments

LD211326 Hamburg DPA in German
1138 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—According to the prime minister of the Rhineland Palatinate, Bernhard Vogel (CDU), GDR state and party leader Erich Honecker described rumors about upper limits for the reunification of families as "fairy tales." After a 1 and 1/2-hour talk with Honecker today, Vogel told a press conference in East Berlin that in his opinion this clear statement on the question of quotas means that restrictions in this area are not to be expected.

Vogel added: On the development of travel from the GDR, Honecker explained that in the first quarter of this year there had not been a fall but rather an increase. This applies to both visits to the Federal Republic and to West Berlin. Honecker did not give any figures, however.

Further DPA Report

LD211331 Hamburg DPA in German
1237 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Excerpts] East Berlin (DPA)—In a talk with the prime minister of the Rhineland-Palatinate, Bernhard Vogel (CDU), GDR state and party leader Erich Honecker rejected conjectures about quotas for exit visits for GDR citizens. [passage omitted]

Vogel said that, on relations between the two German states, Honecker reaffirmed the GDR's readiness to continue along the path that had been embarked upon. In this connection, Vogel noted Honecker's visit to the Federal Republic last year, the increase in travel, and accords on cooperation in various areas. He made quite clear the importantance of the readiness for further opening up, change, and rapprochement.

Vogel, who said he also handed over a list "with petitions" connected with exit visas and hardship cases, spoke of a markedly optimistic assessment by Honecker, not only of the international situation and German-German relations, but also of the situation in the GDR itself, particularly regarding its economic development.

Problems of disarmament policy were also discussed.

On topics affecting the Rhineland-Palatinate, Vogel spoke of favorable developments in economic relations between his federal state and the GDR. He also handed over a long list of further wishes by villages and smaller towns for twinning arrangements with GDR communities. In the cultural sphere, the Salier exhibition to mark the 2,000th anniversary of Speyer in 1989 would also receive important exhibits from the GDR and it would later be on show in the old museum in East Berlin.

LDPD Delegation Holds Talks in FRG

Delegation Arrives

LD181355 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1305 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Bonn, 18 Apr (ADN)—Today a delegation from the LDPD [Liberal Democratic Party of Germany] group in the GDR's People's Chamber arrived in the FRG for several days of talks.

The delegation, which will visit Bonn and Hannover until 22 April at the invitation of the FDP Bundestag group, is lead by Dr Rudolf Agsten, chairman of the LDPD group, member of the GDR People's Chamber Presidium. They were welcomed by the chairman of the FDP Bundestag Group, Wolfgang Mischnick.

On the 1st day of their visit, the delegation will meet the executive of the host group in Bonn for talks.

Meets With Schaeuble, Mischnick

LD191723 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1553 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Bonn, 19 Apr (ADN)—The delegation from the Liberal Democratic Party of Germany [LDPD] group in the GDR People's Chamber currently in Bonn was received this evening at the Federal Chancellery. The delegation, led by group Chairman Dr Rudolf Agsten, was welcomed by Federal Minister Dr Wolfgang Schaeuble, head of the Federal Chancellery. The two politicians spoke in favor of a further improvement in relations between the two German states in accordance with the joint communique by Erich Honecker and Helmut Kohl in September 1987. Wolfgang Mischnick, chairman of the FDP group in the Bundestag, then hosted a dinner in honor of the delegation from the LDPD group in the GDR People's Chamber.

Meets With Parliamentary Leaders

LD210840 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1850 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Bonn, 20 Apr (ADN)—The delegation of the Liberal Democratic Party of Germany [LDPD] group of the GDR People's Chamber held talks with leading representatives of the party groups in the FRG Bundestag in Bonn today. The parliamentarians from the GDR, led by Dr Rudolf Agsten, met Dr Martin Bangemann, federal chairman of the FDP and federal economics minister, in the Thomas-Dehler-Haus, the federal headquarters of the FDP. Dr Agsten conveyed the greetings of LDPD Chairman Prof Dr Manfred Gerlach, who was looking foward to a first meeting with the FDP chairman in the GDR before the end of this year. The talk that followed concentrated on issues of disarmament, economic development, and trade. Both sides pointed to the outstanding importance of the Washington missile agreement. The disarmament process that it set in motion must be continued at all costs. The two German states, and thus the LDPD and the FDP, have a common responsibility for that, the two agreed.

After this, the representatives of the LDPD group in the GDR People's Chamber were received by SPD Chairman Hans-Jochen Vogel in the Erich-Ollenhauer-Haus. The two assesed the proposals for establishing a nuclear weapon-free corridor and a chemical weapon-free zone in central Europe as valuable impetuses for the disarmament process. Vogel came out strictly against a modernization of short-range nuclear missiles, because this would undermine both what has been achieved so far and further disarmament efforts. Dr Agsten pointed to the importance of the international meeting on nuclear weapon-free zones in Berlin. [passage omitted]

At an exchange of views with Dr Theodore Waigel, first deputy chairman of the CDU/CSU group and chairman of the CSU party group in the Bundestag, agreement was noted that everything must be done to prevent a war, for there is no alternative to peace.

Concludes Bonn Talks

LD212009 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1547 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Bonn 21 Apr (ADN)—After 3 days of exchanging views with representatives of all parties represented in the Bundestag, the delegation of the Liberal Deomcratic Party of Germany [LDPD] group in the People's Chamber, led by its chairman Dr Rudolf Agsten, met with leading FDP politicians for concluding talks in Bonn on Thursday. During a meeting, FDP General Secretary Dr Helmut Haussmann praised the results achieved in the cooperation between the two German states.

The guests were bidden farewell by the executive of the FDP Bundestag group, at the invitation of which the GDR parliamentarians are staying in the FRG until Friday. The two sides assessed the stay of the LDPD deputies as successful. FDP Group Chairman Wolfgang Mischnick said that in the exchange of views, there had been a good deal of progress. The talks, which touched on many issues, should be continued. In the name of the members of the LDPD delegation, Dr Rudolf Agsten expressed thanks for the open, objective, and interesting talks.

Before their journey to Hannover, the delegation also met with Dr Irmgard Adam-Schwaetzer (FDP), state minister in the Foreign Office. They discussed the continuation of the disarmament process introduced by the missile agreement, as well as necessary steps and measures for the development of the CSCE process. In this connection, Dr Rudolf Agsten referred to the necessity for normal relations, on the basis of equal rights, between the parliaments in the two German states.

Members of 'Human Trade Gang' Arrested

AU211644 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 16-17 Apr p 2

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—On 13 April 1988 Frank Graf, an inhabitant of Berlin (West), and FRG citizen Marina Koerber were arrested at the GDR Berlin Friedrichstrasse train station checkpoint while committing crimes abusing the entry and visiting regulations under orders from a criminal human trade gang. Investigative proceedings were initiated under Article 105 of the Penal Code, and warrants of arrest were issued.

Daily Criticizes U.S. Strikes in Gulf

AU210458 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 20 Apr 88 p 2

["He." commentary: "U.S. Attacks Exacerbate Situation in the Gulf"]

[Text] On Monday morning [18 April] at least six U.S. Navy ships attacked three Iranian oil drilling platforms, set them ablaze, or sent boarding paties which blew them up. Several workers and technicians were killed. In this incident, the attackers sank or damaged six Iranian war ships, including two frigates. Combat planes from the USS Enterprise, a carrier, gave air support to the attacks. In addition, U.S. combat helicopters fired on Irananian positions in the Al-Faw Peninsula, which is currently the object of fierce hostilities between Iran and Iraq.

Whitehouse Spokesman Marlin Fitzwater described the strike, carried out on the order of President Reagan, as an "appropriate reply to Iran's illegal use of violence against the United States." He was referring to the fact that last week the U.S. frigate Samuel Roberts was hit by a mine and damaged. Defense Secretary Carlucci pointed out that "it was certain" that the mine was of Iranian origin. Anyway, it was "a limited action," Washington announced. The United States hopes "that Iran will learn from this lesson."

According to the Iranian Supreme Defense Council, with this move on Monday—a repetition of similar events last fall—the United States has "directly and flagrantly entered the Gulf War." Iran vowed revenge.

Thus, the U.S. attack led to a dangerous escalation of tensions in a region that has already been destablized and shaken heavily by war. Interestingly enough, a few days prior to the incident the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE reported that in the future "our Armed Forces will have to prepare themselves for relatively insignificant combats everywhere in the world."

Relatively insignificant? What cynicism in the face the now almost 8-year-old war between Iran and Iraq, which brings death and suffering to both sides and which can only be terminated by political means. And what does "everywhere in the world" mean? The FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU pointed out that in the Gulf War, too, the United States is again acting as a world gendarme, which is bound to create more problems.

Recent Soviet-American contacts and negotiations have frequently focused and are still focusing—which is consistent with the special responsibility of the superpowers—on regional conflicts. It is all the more necessary to arrive at political solutions because in our time such conflicts can easily expand and entail global consequences. Does the United States want to demonstrate what it means by "settlement" in the sense of imperial interests?

Like the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, the GDR is in favor of resolving conflicts and tensions in the world through negotiations, the results of which take the interests of the parties concerned into consideration. A revival of the old imperialist gunboat policy could easily lead to a loss of control over the situation, an exacerbation of the situation, and an increased danger for world peace. The United States would be well advised to observe Resolution 598 and to exercise the greatest possible restraint. It would be well advised to support the Soviet proposal of July 1987 "that all non-neighboring states should withdraw their warships from Gulf waters as soon as possible."

Honecker Cables PLO's 'Arafat on Al-Wazir

AU211640 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 19 Apr 88 p 1

[ND report: "Erich Honecker Condolences on Khalil al-Wazir Killing"]

[Text] East Berlin (ND)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has sent the following telegram to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Palestinian Revolution:

Deeply moved by the treacherous murder of Khalil al-Wazir, I convey my sincere sympathy to you and the PLO leadership.

In the GDR, Khalil al-Wazir was known as a genuine Palestinian patriot, who used all his strength for the fulfillment of his people's legitimate rights. In view of this painful loss, I reaffirm the GDR's firm solidarity with the just struggle of the PLO.

Erich Honecker,

general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

Leaders Sign Condolences Book

LD201051 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0943 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 20 Apr (ADN)—A delegation from the GDR party and state leadership paid a visit of condolence to the PLO Embassy on Wednesday to mark the cowardly assassination of the Palestinian patriot, Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander-in-chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution. Sympathy was conveyed by Egon Krenz, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee and, deputy chairman of the GDR State Council; Col Gen Joachim Goldbach, GDR deputy minister of national defense; and Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter, deputy minister of foreign affairs.

The representatives of the GDR party and state leadership bowed in deep mourning before the portrait of the murdered patriot and signed the book of condolences.

They conveyed to the PLO ambassador to the GDR, Dr Isam Kamil Salim, the deep sympathy of the SED Central Committee and its general secretary, Erich Honecker, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, and the GDR people. They underlined the GDR people's firm solidarity with the just struggle of the PLO.

Representatives of the Solidarity Committee, the International Friendship League, the GDR Committee for Friendship With the Palestinian People, and collectives from enterprises and institutions expressed condolences at the PLO Embassy.

Honecker, Stoph Greet Syria on National Day

AU211649 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 16-17 Apr 88 p 1

[ND item: "Long-Standing Friendship With Syrian People Confirmed; Congratulations from GDR on National Day of Syrian Arab Republic"]

[Text] Berlin (ND)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has addressed the following telegram to Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic:

On the occasion of the National Day of the Syrian Arab Republic I convey to you, esteemed Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, and to the friendly Syrian people cordial congratulations on behalf of the SED Central Committee, the GDR State Council and people, and on my own behalf.

Since the attainment of its national independence, the Syrian people have achieved important successes in developing the economy, culture, and education, and in the other sectors of social life. Your country's initiative for securing peace in the world and for a comprehensive, just, and permanent solution of the Near East conflict is highly appreciated and supported in the GDR.

I am certain that the many years of friendly relations between our two states will continue to be constantly strengthened and deepened for the benefit of our peoples.

Please accept, esteemed Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, my best wishes for health and creative vigor in your responsible function.

Erich Honecker,

general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council

On the same occasion, Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, conveyed congratulations to Mahmud al-Zu'bi, prime minister of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Argentine Vice President Martinez Arrives

LD191401 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1218 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 19 Apr (ADN)—Dr Victor Martinez, vice president of the nation and president of the Senate of the Republic of Argentina, arrived in the GDR today. He was invited by the president of the People's Chamber, Horst Sindermann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo. The Argentine guest was warmly welcomed at Berlin's Schoenefeld Airport by Werner Heilemann, member of the presidium of the People's Chamber.

Received by Sindermann

LD192050 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1628 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 19 Apr (ADN)—Horst Sindermann, president of the People's Chamber and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, received Dr Victor Martinez, vice president of the Republic of Argentina and president of the Senate, who is on an official visit to the GDR, in Berlin on Tuesday.

During the exchange of views, the two politicians discussed questions concerning the international situation and cooperation between the GDR and the Republic of Argentina. They stressed that the stage reached and the concurring views of the two states on the basic issues of international policy, especially in the preservation of world peace and nuclear disarmament, create good preconditions for deepening bilateral relations and cooperation. The two sides expressed their conviction that the responsibility of the parliaments and parliamentarians in worldwide efforts for peace and disarmament is increasing. For that reason it is more urgent than ever to intensify the dialogue on the burning issues of the present day.

The process of detente must be expanded and made irreversible in all spheres.

Horst Sindermann explained the GDR's activities in support of the disarmament process introduced with the treaty on the dismantling of intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe. The goal is to make the world nuclear-free by the year 2000. The GDR has undertaken a further important initiative for peace and disarmament with the international meeting for nuclear weapons-free zones, which is to be held in Berlin in June.

Dr Victor Martinez thanked him for the invitation to attend that meeting. His country regards this as an obligation to contribute to the success of this peace initiative. Argentina supports all proposals for the elimination of nuclear, chemical, and other weapons. His country is working for peace and the political solution of existing problems by means of its participation in the Group of Six and in the Contradora "Support Group."

The talk was attended by Werner Heilemann, member of the People's Chamber Presidium. Alfredo C. Pons, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Argentina in the GDR, was also present.

Earlier, the guest, who is in the GDR at the invitation of the People's Chamber president, laid a wreath in honor of the victims of fascism and militarism at the memorial in Unter den Linden.

This evening, Horst Sindermann will give a dinner in honor of his guest.

Holds Talks With Fischer

LD211652 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1237 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Apr (ADN)—GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer met the vice president of Argentina and president of the Senate, Dr Victor Martinez, who is in the GDR, for a talk on Thursday. Oskar Fischer and Victor Martinez noted with agreement that bilateral relations are developing to mutual benefit. Agreement between the two states on the most important questions of the present is of special importance. The political dialogue which has already become a tradition, promotes trust and understanding between the two peoples and governments and thus exercises a beneficial influence on the international climate.

Oskar Fischer explained to the Argentine guest the appeal submitted at the latest session in Sofia by the Warsaw Pact member states to continue the disarmament process steadfastly and to make it irreversible. The two sides agreed to counter all attempts to undermine the advances reached in the disarmament process through compensation, modernization, and new developments of weapons systems.

Oskar Fischer praised Argentina's work in the six-state initiative. The Stockholm Declaration bears witness to the great commitment of the representatives of the initiative to the joint task of freeing mankind from the threat of nuclear and other weapons. This aim is served by the initiative of Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, to convene an international meeting on nuclear weapons-free zones as well as by the Argentinian initiative to establish a zone of peace and cooperation in the South Atlantic.

The Argentine vice president states that his country regards the international meeting in Berlin in June with great interest and will take part in it in a representative manner. Victor Martinez explained Argentina's contribution within the framework of the Contadora support group for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in Central America. The two sides noted that a permanent and secure peace requires the settlement of all regional conflicts through negotiations under respect for the right to self-determination of the peoples.

Confers With Axen

LD211852 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1441 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Par (ADN)—Hermann Axen, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the GDR People's Chamber, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, received the Argentinian vice president and president of the Senate, Dr Victor Martinez, for a friendly talk on Thursday.

The two sides agreed that it would be in line with the new realities existing in the world if broad forces come together for an exchange of views in order to discuss ways of bringing about peace preservation.

The Argentinian vice president praised the GDR's activities in the development of political dialogue in the interests of peace preservation and international cooperation. He expressed gratitude for the GDR'S support for the disarmament proposals of the member states of the six-state initiative, in which Argentina, as is known, plays an active role. Hermann Axen expressed the GDR's high regard for President Alfonsin's important contribution to the activity of the Lima Group for a peace settlement in Central America and the latter's services to the peace policy of the movement of the nonaligned states.

Hermann Axen and Victor Martinez underlined their hope that the nuclear disarmament which has been begun will be continued and the negotiations between the USSR and the United States on halving the number of strategic nuclear weapons will be successful. Hermann Axen referred to the joint proposal of the SED, CPCZ and SPD for creation of a chemical weapons-free zone in Europe. The realization of this proposal would be a concrete new disarmament step. It could help to clarify still unsettled questions of a global convention on a ban on chemical weapons by means of practical experiences. This step would thus have an importance which extends far beyond the security of Europe.

Received by Stoph

LD212028 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1637 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Apr (ADN)—On Thursday, Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, received Dr Victor Martinez, vice president of the Republic of Argentina. Willi Stoph gave details of the successful development of the GDR after the 11th SED Congress. The guest was particularly interested to hear about progress in the application of key technologies, and the increasing link between production and science.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers pointed out the need for further improvement in the international climate. New successes in the joint striving of the nations for the continuation of the disarmament process and for the policy of detente would also emphatically improve the chances for the solution of other global and regional problems.

Dr Martinez described securing world peace and disarmament as the only viable way to guarantee the future of mankind. Argentina, a member of the six-state initiative, was committed to this cause.

Both sides had a high regard for the state of bilateral relations which had been achieved. There were good preconditions for the continual and long-term expansion of cooperation between the GDR and Argentina, particularly in economic relations.

Taking part in the meeting, which passed in a frank and constructive atmosphere, were Werner Heilemann, member of the Presidium of the People's Chamber, and Alfredo C. Pons Benitez, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Argentina in the GDR.

Schuerer Receives Soviet Minister Margulov

AU211645 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 16-17 Apr 88 p 4

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Gerhard Schuerer, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the State Planning Commission, received Grand Margulov [name as published], minister and first deputy chairman of the Bureau for the Fuel and Energy Complex attached to the USSR Council of Ministers, in Berlin on Friday [15 April].

In the exchange of opinions, both sides stressed that comprehensive work is being done to purposefully implement the agreements between Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, and Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the development of a new period of economic and scientific cooperation between the GDR and the USSR. A stable basis for this lies in the Long-Term Program of Developing the Cooperation Between the Two Countries in the Sector of the Economy, Technology, and Production for the Period Up to the Year 2000, the branch programs, and other agreements and contracts.

In the talk, experiences were exchanged on the rational use of fuel and energy resources in the GDR and the USSR. Gerhard Schuerer briefed the guest on the working people's initiatives and efforts to implement the GDR's program for a rational use of energy by 1990.

An exchange of opinions between Wolfgang Rauchfuss, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Central Energy Commission, and the Soviet guest also focused on increasing the economical use of energy and the effective supply of energy-bearing materials to the national economies.

Grand Margulov heads a delegation which has been in the GDR since Monday [11 April] at the invitation of the government, learning about experiences and methods in the rational use of energy resources.

Fischer Receives Hungarian Official

AU191629 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 15 Apr 88 p 3

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—On Thursday [14 April] Oskar Fischer, GDR minister of foreign affairs, received Dr Gyula Horn, state secretary in the Hungarian Foreign Ministry, for a friendly talk.

The two politicians stated that the relations between the GDR and the Hungarian People's Republic are successfully developing on the basis of the agreements between Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, and MSZMP General Secretary Janos Kadar.

In the course of their exchange of opinions on topical international questions, Oskar Fischer and Dr Gyula Horn emphasized that new disarmament agreements in the nuclear and conventional sector have to follow the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles in the interest of a further recovery of the international situation.

The process of disarmament, detente, and fruitful international cooperation is promoted by the GDR and the Hungarian People's Republic to the best of their abilities. The interlocutors stressed in this context the importance of the GDR's initiative for an international meeting for nuclear-free zones in Berlin and of the proposal jointly submitted to the non-nuclear states by the MSZMP, the Finnish Social Democratic Party, and the Italian Socialist Party, to increase their efforts in the interest of disarmament in Europe.

Stoph, Hungary's Kopeczi Discuss Cultural Ties

AU191207 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 15 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—In Berlin on Thursday [14 April] Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, received Prof Bela Kopeczi, minister of culture and education of the Hungarian People's Republic, who came to Berlin on the occasion of the "Days of Hungarian Culture."

Starting out from the positive results of the official friendship visit by the chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers to the Hungarian People's Republic, the interlocutors stressed that cooperation in the spheres of culture and science has reached a high level. They pointed out that the encounters between artists and scientists from both countries, the exchange of ensembles and exhibitions, the popularization of the best works of art and literature have assumed a firm place in the two countries' intellectual and cultural life. Both politicians emphasized the necessity to make progress in the joint struggle to preserve and safeguard peace, in international cooperation, and in the interest of the well-being and the benefit of the peoples.

Direct cooperation between twin bezirke and twin towns, between artists' associations, cultural, artistic, and scientific institutions has long become an integral part of bilateral relations. The performances by Hungarian artists during the "Days of Hungarian Culture" in the GDR met with great appreciation. The importance of personal relations between artists and cultural workers from both countries for the development of socialist culture and mutual understanding between peoples has once more been demonstrated. In this spirit, too, the "GDR Culture Days" in the Hungarian People's Republic in 1989 are being prepared.

The friendly meeting was attended by Hans-Joachim Hoffmann, GDR minister of culture, and Istvan Roska, ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic to the GDR.

Agreement on Cooperation With Romania Signed

AU191411 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 15 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—The 13th Session of the Joint Government Commission for Economic Cooperation between the GDR and the Socialist Republic of Romania was concluded in Berlin on Thursday [14 April] with the signing of a protocol.

The chairmen of both sides of the commission, Guenther Kleiber, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and Gheorghe Oprea, member of the Political Executive Committee of the RCP Central Committee and first deputy prime minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, stressed during the signing ceremony that good results have been obtained in implementing the agreements on strengthening and intensifying cooperation, reached between both countries' leading representatives. They stressed that economic and scientific-technological cooperation between the GDR and the Socialist Republic of Romania is an important contribution to the rapid and efficient development of the two countries' national economies and to the joint struggle of the peoples for a peaceful future.

In the course of the meeting further tasks aimed at deepening specialization and cooperation, as well as scientific-technological collaboration, including research cooperation between the two countries were established. This particularly concerns projects in the spheres of metallurgy, machine building, electrical engineering and electronics, chemical industry, and light industry. Particular weight was attributed to the creation of preconditions—already in the preparatory stage of new agreements on cooperation in research and production—to ensure high economic efficiency, a high scientific-technological level, and absolute reliability concerning the execution of deliveries. Measures to ensure the realization of the agreed targets in the exchange of goods were also stipulated between the two countries.

Both partners assessed that the results of the session will create further conditions so that maximum use can be made of all opportunities of economic cooperation in the interest of increasing efficiency. The meetings took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual trust.

During his stay, the Romanian guest visited the VEB Men's Wear Progress, parent enterprise of the Outer Wear Combine in Berlin.

Politburo's Kleiber Meets With LCY Delegation

LD211020 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0917 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Apr (TANJUG)—Ugljesa Uzelac, executive secretary of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, who is heading an LCY study delegation on a visit to the GDR, had talks with Gunther Kleiber, SED Central Committee Politburo member and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, in Berlin today.

In a cordial and friendly atmosphere the development of and prospects for party and state relations were highly assessed. Uzelac and Kleiber also discussed the activities of the LCY and the SED on the domestic front.

The visit by the LCY delegation comes as part of the LCY-SED cooperation program.

Politburo Statement on Neubrandenburg Report

AU171909 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 13 Apr 88 pp 3-4

[Statement of the SED Central Committee Politburo on the Neubrandenburg Bezirk SED leadership report of 12 April]

[Text] The Neubrandenburg Bezirk SED leadership is doing purposeful, creative, and successful work in implementing the decisions of the 11th congress. The deep evaluation of the speech by Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, to the first secretaries of the SED kreis leaderships has triggered off new and exemplary actions of the working people for political and economic stability, and the safe protection of the GDR.

Under the leadership of the bezirke party organizations, cooperation among the local elected assemblies and their councils, the social forces, enterprises, cooperatives, institutions, and citizens to safeguard a high living standard and the welfare of the people, is successfully developing. This reflects the increased ability of the SED leaderships, the citizens, the kreis councils, and the parties and social organizations united in the GDR National Front to develop the intellectual and material potentials of the territory in order to universally fulfill the economic tasks and to shape a popular communal policy. Ever better use is being made of the choices provided by the law on the local elected assemblies.

"Participate in Planning, in Working, in Governing"—Tested Principle [subhead]

Everything is done to universally strengthen the worker-peasant power and to further develop socialist democracy according to the tested principle of "Participate in Planning, in Working, in Governing."

The bezirk's positive results in unifying the main task of combining its economic and social policy express the working people's deep confidence in the policy of the SED Central Committee and its General Secretary Comrade Erich Honecker, aimed at benefitting the people and securing peace.

With great responsibility and looking toward the future, the Neubrandenburg Bezirk leadership is directing the preparation of cadres for the service as mayors and in the kreis councils.

The achievements are especially based on such experiences:

—The authority of the mayors and council members is strengthened by their close ties with the people, by their creative work in contact with the masses for the flourishing of the cities and communities. In their work, the leading party organs should start from the fact that the mayor and council members have a key role in implementing party and government decisions, that the further prospering of cities and communities considerably depends on their energy and initiatives, on their close ties with the people. The trustful contact between the leading party cadres and the mayors and members of the local councils is an essential contribution to a joint discussion of topical questions of politics, economy, culture, education, medical care, and development problems in the territory. This helps the party, as well as the mayors, to establish even closer ties with the citizens in carrying out the tasks involving their welfare.

—The permanent political education and training of the cadres in the local state organs, in view of their responsibility in implementing the party and government decisions, is a permanent component of the leading party organs' activities in the bezirke and kreise. The party organizations are helped in a committed and purposeful way to further consolidate the ideological positions of the state functionaries regarding their tasks and the organization of the performance-oriented popular communal policy for the people and with the people. By the actions of their leading cadres the kreis leaderships guarantee an increase in the basic organizations' fighting strength in the kreis councils and the qualification of the party groups' activities in the local elected assemblies.

—There is a long-term concept for the work of selecting, developing, and enabling cadres for their election as mayors and kreis council members. It facilitates the continuous class-consistent strengthening of the local state organs. In close cooperation with the basic organizations in the enterprises and agricultural producer cooperatives, the bezirk leaderships and the kreis leaderships are concentrating on promising young workers and cooperative peasants who distinguish themselves by class-conscious attitudes, exemplary performance, and activities full of initiatives, and enjoy the confidence of the collectives.

—In the development of cadres for the functions of mayors and council members the bezirk leadership and the kreis leaderships are working trustingly and constructively with the chairmen of the friendly parties and the leaderships of the mass organizations. This contribution to implementing the SED's alliance policy is also reflected by the fact that 77 mayors are working with the mandate of the friendly parties and these parties are represented by full-time council members in almost all kreis councils.

On the Spot, Care Is Taken That Word and Deed Correspond [subhead]

There are considerably higher requirements for selection, development, and qualification of the mayors and kreis council members who are direct representatives of the state power and at the same time confidential persons of all citizens. These requirements arise from the qualitatively new claims of the 11th SED Congress regarding communal policy and the further perfection of socialist democracy.

The SED bezirk leadership should concentrate on the solution of the following tasks:

1. In the selection and qualification of the functionaries of our worker-peasant state, especially the mayors, importance must be attached to their ability to adhere to the nature of our policy for the welfare of the people and the securing of peace, which includes: to comprehensively direct territorial tasks; to constructively involve the citizens in their solution and, in this way, to make it possible for everybody to experience that the main direction of the development of the socialist state power is the perfection of socialist democracy; and to take care that word and deed always correspond.

The Trust of Every Family and of Every Citizen Is Essential [subhead]

The confidential relationship between the socialist state and the population is decisively promoted by the citizens' experience that the local elected assemblies take questions of communal policy into account as best as they can and use the available means to a high social effect. Popular communal policy requires that the moods in the territory are known, the citizens are well informed about the state policy and local affairs, and there are responsible and sensitive reactions to their hints and proposals. It is one of the state functionary's tasks to hold regular talks with the citizens on communal, as well as social and international developments, to convincingly explain the party and state policy, and to motivate the citizens to develop further territorial reserves in order to fulfill the main task in its unity of economic and social policy.

Everywhere the sense of responsibility has to be developed so that mayors' and kreis council members' activities focus on the duty of consistently fulfilling and overfulfilling the annual plans adopted by the people's representative bodies in a purposeful way, and of shaping socialist team work for this purpose. The GDR's optimum standards established in the performance comparisons and the individual experiences which are developed under the concrete territorial conditions, serve as an important orientation.

2. In political leadership one has to consistently proceed on the professional code of the functionary of our worker-peasant state which was formulated by Comrade Erich Honecker at the 11th Congress. In which way the citizens' initiative to implement the policy of the SED and the socialist state develops, considerably depends on the mayors' and council members' activities for the resourceful and unconditional implementation of the party and government decisions.

The determination to create good conditions for the activities of people's representative bodies, to support the deputies and the permanent commissions, and to trustingly cooperate with the National Front committees and all other social forces that are active in the cities and communities, is necessary. The council members who work as honorary mayors of parts of communities must be helped in an even more efficient way to develop communal life there, to win the confidence of every family and every citizen, and thus to involve them in active cooperation.

The order to direct the comprehensive economic and social development of the cities and communities makes it increasingly important for the mayor to exemplify a variety of talents and abilities. Qualities such as political-ideological expertise, authority, working morale, attention, a sure instinct for the citizens' problems, and modesty are in demand.

An established economic, scientific-technological knowledge, the ability to implement the party's economic strategy in the territory together with the directors of the enterprises and cooperatives, and the purposeful improvement of the citizens' living conditions are essential.

For the directing of communal policy, more importance is attached to great expert knowledge. This includes the strict application of legal regulations, as well as the acquisition of progressive experiences and knowledge in the work with the people.

We are concerned with cadres who work as deputies, honorary mayors, deputy mayors, functionaries of parties and social organizations, and who are known and respected by the citizens. They have good qualifications to be mayors. As a rule, the mayor should live in the city or community in which he exercises his office, and have close ties with the inhabitants.

Good Preparation and Support of the Council Members [subhead]

3. Utmost attention must be paid to the political and technical qualification of the cadres for the functions of mayors and kreis council members. Here the unity of training and further training must be guaranteed. The qualification for the takeover of a full-time function should be planned in the long run and concluded before work is started.

Cadres' training must involve practical testing and proof of efficiency. For this purpose, they should be entrusted with responsibility in party leaderships, in state and social functions, according to their increasing abilities.

The level reached in the technical training of the cadres in electoral functions in the state apparatus must be further increased according to plans. For this purpose, studies at the Potsdam-Babelsberg Academy for Political Science and Jurisprudence and the Weimar "Edwin Hoernle" Technical School must be consistently used. To meet the requirements for communal policy and related educational and mayors' leadership qualifications, the imparting of knowledge must be extended and qualified by these institutions. In a practice-oriented way the basic questions of social policy must be related to the latest experiences in implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress.

The following conclusion can be drawn from the Neubrandenburg experience: The more thoroughly and purposefully cadres are trained for their work, the more they are granted constant political and professional support, and the more regularly their work is checked and outstanding achievements recognized, the more stable is the position of reliable and respected mayors, and the smaller is the unjustified fluctuation. Hence the conclusion is to do everything possible in the interest of the citizens and the respective region, to ensure that the mayor in any given locality will work successfully for many years because he enjoys the confidence of his electorate.

Greater importance must be attached to enabling cadres to continue their professional training in the work process.

We must consistently implement the legal obligations of local elected assemblies, namely that the chairmen of kreis councils are held personally responsible for the work with mayors and must guarantee qualified guidance and advanced training for them. Through constructive assistance on the spot and by acquainting them with the best experience, mayors must be helped to continue social development work in cities and villages. This means that achievements must be compared in a concrete way, while uncovering new reserves and ensuring firm control.

Cadres Programs in Ueckermuende and Demmin as Examples [subhead]

4. The SED bezirk and kreis leaderships will ensure the long-term selection of cadres and their development in accordance with plan provisions. In addition, reserve cadres and the next generation of cadres must be further trained.

In accordance with experience gained by the kreis leadership of Ueckermuende and Demmin, all kreises must apply the principle of working out long-term cadres programs aimed at covering the real need for mayors and members of kreis councils. This way we will ensure preconditions to purposefully raise the quality of cadres.

What is at stake now is whether or not young cadres are selected in enterprises, establishments, and cooperatives, who, on the basis of their class standpoint, their capabilities, and preparedness, are suitable for holding the position of a state functionary. Long-term agreements between councils, enterprises or cooperatives and the young generation of cadres must be concluded for this purpose. Cadres' political-ideological activity must aim at their viewing the assignment to the position of state functionary as a commitment to strengthening the peasant-farmer power.

On the basis of "agreements between the GDR Council of Ministers and the FDJ Central Council on the Selection and Training of FDJ Functionaries for State Positions," an even more purposeful aim is to train members of the youth federation, who have proven themselves in main and honorary activities, for the assignment of positions in the state apparatus. Leaderships should focus particularly on members of youth brigades who have proven themselves. The contribution of mayors and members of kreis councils—especially regarding questions of youth and sports—who had held leading positions in the FDJ should be increased considerably.

The positive experience of the 191 female mayors of the Neubrandenburg bezirk must be given wide application. Their very conscientious civic activity combined with great personal involvement, purposefulness, and constructive vision must be stressed. The party leadership and local councils should support even more the development of women especially on the basis of many-sided individual measures. More women have to be trained and elected, especially as mayors in cities and as chairmen of kreis councils.

Along with the increased importance of communal policy, the role of our party's basic organizations in local state bodies and of party groups in people's assemblies has also increased. We must continue to dwell on complex guidance in all regional state tasks, overcome thinking in terms of departments, and continue to increase the personal responsibility of each comrade for the implementation of the decisions of the 11th SED Congress. This includes the observance of the right to consistently control how these decisions are being implemented by the state bodies at a regional level and how the people are involved in the fulfillment of tasks.

Distinct Progress in Preparations for the 1989 Communal Elections [subhead]

Proven experience such as regular mayors' conferences must be used to a greater extent to better capitalize on the latest findings in communal policy aimed at substantially increasing the efficiency of the given region, and we must turn the example of the best people into a mobilizing standard for all.

Work in local people's assemblies must be organized everywhere so that in the process of preparing for the 1989 communal elections, together with our citizens, noticeable progress will be achieved in increasing outputs and in improving work conditions and the standard of living. For this purpose, we have to make better use of the opportunities in people's assemblies in keeping with law provisions. Of decisive importance is how—under our party leadership—the policy of alliances is constructively implemented in each region and how possibly all citizens are involved—through the National Front, which unites parties and mass organizations—in the fulfillment of tasks in order to constantly strengthen confidence between the state and its citizens.

Government Reacts to Killing of PLO Figure

Ministry Holds News Conference

LD211649 Budapest MTI in English 1442 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Budapest, April 21 (MTI)—In connection with the assassination of Palestinian leader Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], the spokesman of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dealt with two themes at his international press conference in Budapest Thursday.

Outlining the Foreign Ministry statement, Istvan Komoroczki stressed, "We condemn the brutal act of terror in which Khalil al-Wazir, called Abu Jihad in the movement, was murdered in his Tunis home on April 16. Whoever committed the murder, it expresses the intention of the forces which attempt to suppress by terror the civil unrest in the occupied Arab territories and raise obstacles in the way of the peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis."

In the view of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry, the new armed conflicts in the Gulf region pose a threat to international peace and security, the spokesman said. The lasting presence of naval fleets in the Gulf leads to the escalation of warlike tension. The Hungarian Foreign Ministry expresses the hope that all concerned parties will refrain from any action likely to aggravate the explosive situation. It is convinced that the security of free navigation in the Gulf can only be guaranteed through the joint effort of the coastal states and the international community. It declares support for the setting up of a multinational fleet under international commandership to guarantee free and secure navigation.

Answering a question on the venue of the Middle East peace conference and its possible organization in Budapest, the spokesman pointed out that for the time being the concerned parties do not yet hold concrete talks on the scene and the peace conference itself. According to the spokesman, none of the sides has referred to the possibility of holding such a meeting in the Hungarian capital. Should the Hungarian Foreign Ministry receive such a request, it will study and return to the question. Asked about the realistic ground of the news item published in the Japanese press that if Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan cannot agree on the 50 per cent cut of strategic weapons in Moscow end of May, the next summit will be organized in Hungary, the spokesman said that the Hungarian Foreign Ministry does not have information to the effect that the two great powers have agreed on holding a fifth summit after Moscow. However, if such a request were received from the two parties, Hungary would consider it honourable and would be ready to organize the summit meeting.

Condolence Cable Sent

LD202235 Budapest MTI in English 2137 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] Budapest, April 20 (MTI)—On the occasion of the brutal murder of Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], the outstanding personality of the Palestine liberation movement, the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic sent a telegram of condolence to the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization. At the representative office of the PLO in Budapest, deputies of the Hungarian party, state and society expressed their condolence.

RCP Delegation Visits, Meets With Szuros, Kotai

LD220958 Budapest MTI in English 0733 GMT 22 Apr 88

[Text] Budapest, April 22 (MTI)—A delegation of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, led by deputy head of department Nicolae Mihai, alternate member of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee, visited Hungary on the invitation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Central Committee.

Nicolae Mihai met Matyas Szuros, secretary of the HSWP Central Committee, and Geza Kotai, head of the Foreign Affairs Department of the Central Committee, member of the Central Committee. Nicolae Mihai also held talks with Imre Szokai, deputy head of the Foreign Affairs Department of the Central Committee.

At talks the sides evaluated issues of the relations between the two parties, and coordinated the inter-party work plan between the HSWP Central Committee and the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee for the years 1988-1989. At the discussions, held in an open atmosphere, the sides reviewed timely issues of the Hungarian-Romanian relation. The Hungarian side set down that the HSWP continues to be guided by the intention of develop Hungarian-Romanian cooperation, and eliminate the factors that burden relations. The Hungarian side invariably awaits the reply of the Romanian side to the comprehensive Hungarian initiatives raised at the meeting of the Central Committee secretaries in June, 1987.

The representatives of the HSWP repeatedly reconfirmed their principled standpoint related to the minority issue. They stressed that Hungary is invariably ready for constructive dialogue, and for holding meetings that yield results.

MSZMP's Szuros Addresses Party Activists

Surveys Ties With Danube States

LD281844 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Party activists met today in Balassagyarmat. Central Committee Secretary Matyas Szuros was invited to give a talk. He spoke primarily on foreign political topics, but he also answered questions. Here are some thoughts from his introductory talk:

[Begin Szuros recording] In the course of history, a fundamental endeavor of Hungarian progressive forces has always been to form good relations and cooperation with the peoples along the Danube, and especially with the people living in the Carpathian Basin. This did not succeed in the course of history. If we look down to the end of the Danube, from the Black Forest to the Black Sea, and if we think of the countries situated there, we see: Our relationship with the FRG is good, our cooperation is balanced, and basically free of problems, but the FRG is a developed, capitalist country. Our relationship with Austria is better than it was under the Austro-Hungarian monarchy because at that time we were only in second place, and now we are equal partners. With Czechoslovakia relations are good-neighborly and friendly; we are also able to discuss sensitive, difficult issues. Our relationship with Yugoslavia is orderly.

Unfortunately, the anachronism is that our relationship with Romania is not good in the political sense. Economically it is generally in order, but politically, and especially in regard to culture, it, unfortunately, falls far short of requirements, and that is not due to us. It must be said that they are not partners on certain issues. They remain aloof, and do not discuss difficult issues. The other day I received a Romanian party delegation. We repeatedly offered: We are ready to work on improving relations, but in the future we we will not leave any anti-Magyar Romanian measure unanswered. There is no sense in burying our heads in the sand, so to speak, in the spirit of friendship while they are doing things that are antihumanitarian. It is a fundamental human right to be able to use one's mother tongue and foster one's national culture. If the opposite takes place, we will come out against it. [end recording]

Presents Policy Paper

LD212228 Budapest MTI in English 2056 GMT 21 Apr88

[Text] Budapest, April 21, (MTI)—Matyas Szuros, secretary of the HSWP Central Committee, delivered a paper on the tasks of socialist construction work and on foreign policy issues in Balassagyarmat for local party workers, economic managers and social leaders on Thursday.

"There is consensus in Hungary on the most important international issues, [no closing quotation marks as received] Matyas Szuros said. The foreign policy situation of any country is really strong and its initiatives are successful if it relies on firm and prolific internal conditions. Hungary achieved this firmness and gained foreign policy respect through its economic progress and initiating reform policy in the recent decades. The difficulties of the past few years, however, warn that the country and its economy and whole society have to be renewed, even in the interest of a successful foreign policy. The difficulty and complexity of the problem is caused in part by the fact that the classical thinkers of Marxism did not, and could not, describe how to shape the existing socialism. What followed Lenin's death ended up soon in the Stalinist dead end, both in the Soviet Union and in Hungary. We know and see, Matyas Szuros said, what type of economy the capitalist countries have developed, and we also recognize that the flexibility and ability for renewal of the capitalist economy surprised even the socialist economists. We still do not want to follow that path, we want socialism, and our country experiences the renewal of the socialist economy right now.

Matyas Szuros pointed out that the initiation of socialist renewal is Hungary's historic merit. In the beginning, however, we were not understood by all of our friends and reform was mistaken for reformism by many. Now we are in the fortunate position that, regarding their logic, the same processes are underway in the Soviet Union and China, which have already happened or taking place in our country.

The secretary of the Central Committee said that renewal makes it necessary to spread the new political thinking in domestic and foreign policy alike. Today, the key issue of the foreign policy is to protect mankind from annihilation and this should be harmonized with the requirements of the class struggle.

Hungary's foreign policy meets these basic requirements and it is not by chance that we have excellent contacts with the major capitalist countries and our neighbours as well. The only exception is—and this is not our failure—Romania, with which especially the political and cultural relations are below the required level, Matyas Szuros said. He pointed out in this context that nationalism might occur in any country, be it socialist or capitalist. Serious troubles come about, however, if nationalism is raised to the rank of official policy. Our country continues to make every effort so that the problems of the Hungarians living in Romania be solved, and we shall raise our voice against all anti-Hungarian measures. We follow the realities in this issue as well. The delicate questions, including the nationality issue, should not be swept under the carpet, Matyas Szuros said.

Discusses Socialist 'Renewal'

LD212116 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1630 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Excerpts] The preliminary draft stand of the party conference was discussed today in Balassagyarmat, where Matyas Szuros, secretary of the party Central Committee, spoke at a meeting of activists about the necessity to create an effective socialism. Our correspondent, Arpad Zengoe, reports on the options of the town's party members, as well.

[Zengoe] [passage omitted] People are paying greater attention to what is happening today, and are taking part in the debates on it. The same thing happened with the debate on the draft document of the national party conference, in Balassagyarmat and the surrounding area.

We heard and read, in notes, that the great majority of members believe the document is suitable for debate. They have no objection to part of it. For example, the party members support cultured, political debate that tolerates the notion of differences of opinion becoming general practice. They also back the modernization of the election system within the party. There were, however, some reservations. It was felt that the draft contains too many generalities. The objective of the party conference was not clear for some of the local party members. This was also mentioned at the aktiv in Balassagyarmat, in which Matyas Szuros took part. He said, among other things, the following in his talk, which also touched on and analyzed international questions:

[Begin Szuros recording] We are trying to make our society effective. We should, first and foremost, develop an effective, rational economy, within the framework of building socialism. This is not a simple task, because the classics did not elaborate, they did not sum up, either theoretically or from a practical aspect, how an effective economy should be made. We know, for example, how this is done, let us say, in Belgium or Austria, but we want to follow another path. We want to follow the path of building socialism in the future, too. We seek the ways and means of building an effective economy, and beyond that, an effective social system.

If I place this in the context of international processes, we see that, in fact, all of socialism is in the path-seeking phase. It might even be better to say it is going through the period of renewal. Earlier, Hungary stood quite alone with its reform policy—almost like Petoefi [19th century Hungarian nationalist poet] lamented in the past: The Magyar stands alone in the storm. Even our friends were not truly able to establish and understand precisely what Hungarians wanted, in fact. What kind of socialism?

Now, however, fortunately for us, as far as the logic and essence of socialism are concerned, the same thing that we have been trying to do for 20 years is happening in the Soviet Union, the PRC, and Poland. The essence of this is that a renewal of the entire functioning of socialism is necessary. [end recording]

Union Leader Views Party Conference Proposals

Discusses Economy

LD210913 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1630 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] At today's session of its presidium, the National Council of Trade Unions [SZOT] discussed the draft stand to be put forward at the party conference. Tibor Baranyai, SZOT secretary general, replies to the questions of Attila Balint:

[Begin recording] [Balint] What stance did the presidium take when judging the situation of the country, when judging the situation of employees?

[Baranyai] The presidium considers the guidelines to be suitable for debate at the party conference because this party document contains the most important questions. At the same time, the presidium determined that as far as the situation report and the assessment of the workers' situation is concerned, the picture is not balanced; indeed the situation is more grave than the current document suggests.

[Balint] So you felt that regarding both the country's economic situation at the moment and the situation of workers or employees, the document paints a somewhat rosier picture than reality?

[Baranyai] Yes. The presidium determined that the wording of the document, especially in disclosing the causes, is still deficient. It demanded there be a deeper analysis of the causes of deficiencies in our economic life. It also demanded that when analyzing the conditions of workers, the situations of the various strata or groups of workers—I mean here the miners and the best intellectuals, too—should be taken more into account.

[Balint] What are the most important tasks, what is most necessary?

[Baranyai] Concerning the evaluation, in essence we agreed with it. But we found it lacked a concrete economic program, moreover a concrete plan, for the coming years—for'88,'89, and'90. We extensively support the government's stabilization program, which we declare to be our own; however, the current measures have yet to bear fruit, and this brings in its wake reverberations in the economy. The workers sense this.

[Balint] So a picture of the future would be necessary, one which not only views the shaping of real wages, but a somewhat wider, more complex picture of the future?

[Baranyai] The presidium had a picture of the immediate future in mind and proposes a concrete program for this. We need one that shows the way out of the present situation, and that shows that yes, we will achieve this with honest work.

The presidium wholeheartedly welcomed the idea of a better assertion of the party's leading role and a modernization of party work, which also means that the party deals with the most important issues and directs its attention to them. In addition, the presidium demanded that the social and mass organizations and mass movements acquire a greater role within the system of political institutions; their independence should be asserted. [end recording]

Notes Strike Law Prospects

LD210921 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] The presidium of the National Council of Trade Unions [SZOT] has discussed the draft stand of the national party conference. The opinions will be made public in a few days, once the wording of its proposals has been finalized. Our correspondent Attila Balint learned some details on the body's standpoint from Tibor Baranyai, SZOT secretary general.

[Begin recording] [Baranyai] The presidium determined that the wording of the document, especially in disclosing the causes, is still deficient. It demanded there be a deeper analysis of the causes of deficiencies in our economic life. It also demanded that the social and mass organizations and movements should acquire a greater role within the system of political institutions; their independence should be asserted.

Together with disclosure of conflicts, we would also like to have independent concepts at our disposal, where we have the possibility and means to do so.

[Balint] Would it not be expedient to regulate by law, or return to, in connection with amending the Constitution, the rights of trade unions?

[Baranyai] It would be very good, and the presidium's position demanded this too. Political and legal guarantees must be established for performing the increased tasks of trade unions.

[Balint] What guarantees can we think of, here? I must ask: If we have a bankruptcy law, why do we not have a strike law? If employees can be released, why can't they have the possibility to take measures themselves?

[Baranyai] You will be surprised—this thought also emerged in the debate, and we will work it out. I do not yet know whether we will have such a law, but it is certain that we will work on it and look into the possibility of it. [end recording]

Miklos Nemeth Interviewed on Economic Reforms

AU182006 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
15 Apr 88 p 5

[Interview with MSZMP Central Committee Secretary Miklos Nemeth by Waclaw Urbanski: "What's New With the Hungarian Reform?"—in Warsaw, "at the beginning of April"]

[Text] [Urbanski] There has always been a great deal of interest in Poland concerning Hungary's economic reform. The start of this reform 20 years ago provided a so-called new economic mechanism. It seemed that everything would be fine, and yet that was not the case. What do you think are the successes and failures of the reform?

[Nemeth] The reform of the Hungarian economic system that began in March 1968 is not a "miracle" in any sense, but an attempt to adapt to a changing situation and to new challenges and circumstances. What we did then was nothing other than a search for ways and means to change a system that was based mainly on the principles of direct economic management in force during the Stalin era, into a system of economic management that considers market laws and is also more efficient.

We took the greatest step in 1968, when we did away with the system of central planning then in force and the practice of imposing central plans on enterprises. Instead, we attempted to create suitable prices and credit conditions for enterprises and—on the basis of other economic parameters—we "transmitted" the government's intentions to them. This led to results and liberated new energies. Between 1968 and 1972 (we call this the golden age of Hungary), the national income increased from 3.5 percent to over 6 percent annually. We achieved a foreign trade surplus, efficiency increased, and so on.

However, I must confess at the same time that the reform of the planning system was not accompanied by a reform of the organization and decisionmaking system. In other words, issues and conditions concerning law, organization, and decisionmaking in the Hungarian economy remained as they were under the previous system of management. And this discrepancy created problems later.

When we started the reform, we incorporated certain built-in safeguards into the system. That was a characteristic feature. We were afraid of high inflation and mass unemployment, and we also feared that enterprises and individuals would be placed in different categories according to their incomes. It seemed that these safeguards could later be abolished and the restrictions eased. But this did not happen. Instead, we started to incorporate new safeguards, which meant that the reform remained incomplete. It turned out that efficient economic management and a more effective economic policy were only possible if the economic reform went hand in hand with social and political reforms. But these reforms had still not occurred by 1986 and 1987, and it is these very issues that are now facing us and the entire Hungarian economic policy. The present task is to achieve progress in reforming the system of economic management and examining the political system. And these issues will be the subject of the national party conference on 20 May. It seems that what we decided in 1968 will at last be realized in 1988.

[Urbanski] However, the reform has been successful as far as agriculture is concerned. As much as 30 percent of agricultural output is being exported, and the domestic market is well stocked.

[Nemeth] From the very beginning, awareness and incentive in the private sector were very intense, and stronger than in the state sector. Also, the system of institutionalized democracy was more developed in agriculture than in industry. The fact that the structure of agricultural production is simpler than that of industrial production was also significant. Of no less importance was the fact that the team of specialists in charge of agriculture and agricultural policy was prepared in good time, and these were young people who had seen "a bit of the world." They took Hungarian agriculture into their hands.

[Urbanski] Can one call the stabilization program adopted by the Hungarian parliament last year a second stage of the reform?

[Nemeth] In Hungary, reform is a process. Of course there have been periods of economic boom, as well as many periods of depression. Instead of calling this program a "second stage," I would say it is better suited to the need for comprehensiveness and the need to extend the reform to other spheres than was the case in previous periods. Moreover, this process contains points of concentration, key issues, or milestones. In other words, certain steps and measures are interconnected, and only in this form can they bring results. For example, a reform to our banking system cannot be kept too far apart from a law on the bankruptcy of enterprises or from modern methods of capital transfer, stocks, shares, and so on. Therefore, measures like these must be kept together, so they can provide a driving force for the economy. As far as we are concerned, I do not agree with the concept of stages.

[Urbanski] There has been a lively debate in the MSZMP in recent months on economic topics, and broad sectors of society are also discussing the economy. Does that mean the party is aiming to socialize the reform and is seeking new incentives to continue it?

[Nemeth] In a socialist country one cannot imagine a reform or reform process without initiative and guidance from the party. But that does not mean that the party involves itself in details. The party can only perform its tasks if it enjoys the support of the majority. It can gain this support if it does nothing in secret and conveys its ideas in clear language, in the form of dialogue, and if it says openly what decisions have been taken, what the effects of these decisions will be, whom we support, who will profit by this support, and who will lose because of it. But we do not always have to call the ones who have lost losers. We must tell them that as of a certain time, a new era is beginning and that they must adapt to it. But we must give them time to do this. If they do not adapt, they will have to expect consequences. The party is heading the reform and is initiating not just economic reforms, but also reforms to social policy and to the system of political institutions. That is why we need the national party conference I mentioned before.

[Urbanski] You mentioned a law on the bankruptcy of enterprises. How will it work?

[Nemeth] Some 56 enterprises, including agricultural production cooperatives and state farms, closed with a deficit last year. However, two-thirds of the losses were incurred by just eight enterprises. These were large enterprises, for instance the "Ganz-Mavag" mining enterprise in Tatabanya and several larger machine plants.

However, size on its own means nothing. Both large and small enterprises can be very profitable. Both large and small enterprises can run at a loss. Actually, the situation depends on the historical conditions within an enterprise and on whether or not it has a monopoly. For example, the Csepel Combine, which was one of the largest plants in Hungary for many years, incurred losses. In 1982 it was split up into six or seven enterprises, each of which achieved a profit in 1987.

[Urbanski] However, let us concentrate on those enterprises that run at a loss. Above all, let us discuss what will happen to their workers.

[Nemeth] Closing down an enterprise means that there will be an absence of certain commodities on the market. Therefore, we must create a certain threat for enterprises, so that they may feel that bankruptcy is possible even in a socialist economy. But this method will only work if we highlight the other side of the coin, in other words make it clear that the state will not immediately deprive those who work efficiently of their additional income, but will let them keep it so they can make investments and expand. This also involves the level of employment. Right now we are abandoning a very strict application of the principle of full employment, in other words the principle whereby the state guarantees everyone a job until the end of his life. If someone agrees to be retrained and work at a different location or different occupation, then the state must help him. But if his previous work was inefficient and consumed national income instead of creating it, then the Constitution guarantees the right to work, and the state must see to it that everyone does have work. The question of efficiency is up to enterprises, but who to retrain, how to retrain him, whether or not to improve his professional skills, and whether or not to deploy him elsewhere is up to the state.

We have created a special fund, which we will use to retrain those who wish to change their profession. That is also why we want to change our housing policy, because if this policy continues to be so inflexible it will prevent a relocation of manpower. Both these spheres are mutually dependent. We must alter the structure of the national economy because with the present structure we cannot achieve any more growth; if we tried to do so, it would only increase our debt. And if we say we have to alter the structure, it cannot just apply to production resources. It must also apply to the most important factor of production—man himself. And that is why we are concentrating on social and employment policy right now.

[Urbanski] There is no doubt that Poland and Hungary have many similar problems to solve. So how do you view what we have been doing in Poland recently, including during the second stage of the reform?

[Nemeth] Poland and Hungary are struggling with difficult problems of equilibrium, high debts, and the heavy burden they cause. There are also problems with the domestic situation. These problems did not appear overnight in either Poland or Hungary. They arose over decades as a result of faulty economic decisions. For a very long time, we thought we did not have to adapt to a changing world economic situation as quickly as The Netherlands, Denmark, or Austria. Today we have to answer the world's challenge and find ways to improve our adaptability. I think that the search for these will be the first step in a new path of joint action in Hungary and Poland. We must seek these solutions through dialogue with the masses. In that sense, aims and applied solutions are very similar in both countries. In fact, the process in Poland is more advanced in a certain respect, for example the various types of consultative councils you have, not to mention the advisory bodies attached to the Sejm, State Council, and Central Committee. We have just started organizing bodies like this. So I may say that as far as the system of political institutions is concerned, our Polish comrades are ahead. But in terms of the pure economic sphere and economic reform, we are apparently ahead, because by 1984 we had already altered the structure of relations between ministries and enterprises. We created a system of self-management, forming what are known as enterprise councils. We set up an efficient two-tier banking system and created trade banks. We have a successful law on bankruptcy of enterprises. A new system of taxation has been in effect since 1 January. We have introduced a tax on personal income. In addition to reforming the tax system, we have reformed the price system. We have substantially reduced subsidies. This year we would like to introduce to parliament a very important bill on companies and economic affiliations. This goes hand in hand with a leveling-out of incomes. I am convinced this is one of the reasons why our social policy needs to be reformed. Our pension system is unfair, our social security system is bad, and our housing economy is unjust.

[Urbanski] Does society understand the purpose of the reform?

[Nemeth] Society has understood the troubles caused by lack of economic equilibrium. They know we must tighten our belts and enterprises and individuals must make sacrifices. If we tell people we are doing all this to extricate ourselves from the situation and not get stuck in a vicious circle, people will make these sacrifices. But we cannot expect them to do so indefinitely. We cannot make structural changes with a constant decline in real incomes, and we have planned for an 8-10 percent decline this year. We can make such changes for 1 or 2 years at the most, but during this time we must take steps to boost development. We must create the kind of incentives that will encourage greater effort and efficiency from individuals and enterprises, but we must also create sanctions for those unable to keep up with the changes. For that group, the loss in real income would not be 8 to 10 percent, but 15 to 20 percent. However, those who produce better results will not suffer heavy losses; they will emerge in the clear. Some enterprises will even be able to afford to increase their wages. For this they will be rewarded. All this will lead to greater financial differences. However, a permanent tightening of our belts is not the answer to the present situation.

[Urbanski] During your meetings in Warsaw, there was also talk of a comprehensive program to develop Polish-Hungarian relations until the year 2000.

[Nemeth] This program was signed on 2 December by Comrades Jaruzelski and Kadar. Our government adopted a program of action at the beginning of February. Preparations have speeded up considerably, including in the scientific and technical sphere. Talks are being held on the possibility of expanding joint production. Thus far we have only one joint enterprise, "Haldex," and that is not enough. We should take concrete steps forward in the machine and electronics industries this year, in the spirit of the program. But I cannot say whether these steps have been taken yet. The preparations have been speeded up and are in their final stage.

[Urbanski] Thank you for the interview, Comrade Secretary.

Social Affairs Minister Cited on 'Restructuring'

PM211417 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 8 Apr 88 p 11

[Report on interview with Social Affairs Minister Judith Csehak by Disa Hastad: "Hungary's Social Affairs Minister Has Her Eye on Sweden"; in Budapest; date not given]

[Text] Budapest—Hungary, which is now facing major reorganization in its economy and working life, has had a social affairs minister since December of last year. Judith Csehak, 48, a doctor whose trade union career served as her springboard to the top, is the first to hold the post in Hungary.

Csehak herself is inclined to see the establishment of this new ministry as the most important thing to have happened in the last few years. It is the recognition of the major problems facing the country—problems currently manifested in a great deal of concern among the population about the major changes expected.

For several years, Hungarian economic reformers have been preaching that Hungary must allow enterprises to go bankrupt and must restructure the economy, even though this could mean unemployment.

In addition, as a result of increased food and energy prices, there is now an unstable situation in Hungary which could become explosive. There were social tensions before: The liberalized economic policy has meant for many years that people could take jobs in the private sector (the so-called second economy) and even more could take part-time jobs to boost their income. This has increased the economic differences in society.

These social differences have been seen with the naked eye—rich people have built luxury houses on the hills of Buda, while pensioners have been seen rummaging in trash cans. Now, however, living standards will fall for all because Hungarians have been consuming too much—there is a government bill about it—while wage differences will be permitted. The aim is to reward those who work well and to create stimuli to improve production and increase quality.

In the middle of this melting pot, where those in power well remember 1956 and what feelings of social injustice have led to in neighboring countries, the reformers have said that social policies are probably needed to deal with the many difficult issues that will arise. A few years ago a commission led by sociology professor Zsuzsa Ferge (a clear advocate of a welfare state) and a number of leading economists (with greater faith in a market economy) was set up. This in itself is a combination that would have been unthinkable only a decade ago.

To a large extent, they have looked at Swedish welfare solutions, and for a socialist country many of the solutions are novelties. In socialist societies, unemployment does not exist officially, and for this reason there could be no unemployment benefits. The rule has also been: to each according to his work. When Judith Csehak therefore succeeds, as one her first ministerial actions, in introducing unemployment benefit payments that may even be received by those who have never worked, this is a major change in attitude, even if it does seem small.

Already unemployment benefits exist which are paid for 9 months like sickness benefits and are then reduced by 10 percent for the rest of the year. Judith Csehak does not think that the sum can be increased, but on the other hand, the period for which people have a right to be paid unemployment benefit could be extended.

Unemployment is not exactly Judith Csehak's concern—there is another ministry for that—but she thinks that there are now around 35,000-40,000 people who are registered as unemployed. It is a regional problem, she said. The total number of unemployed is probably higher. It is estimated that 4 million of Hungary's 10 million people are employed.

But if you remember that the words "unemployment" and "unemployed" were not mentioned in the papers until a year ago, and the benefit when it was introduced was euphemistically called "relocation payment," it is not surprising that the real problems have not emerged yet.

Nor has the major restructuring of industry yet begun. So far, employers simply seem to have tried to get rid of people because the new tax system makes it more expensive to employ people.

If you ask Judith Csehak how she views these problems, she says that she believes in education as a cure for unemployment.

"You can find new jobs, or you can extend the period of education. At present we have 8 years of school education: This could be extended."

Pensioners, almost one-fourth of Hungary's population, have been neglected. But now the government has agreed that the value of their pensions should remain firm, and they have been increased somewhat. Now Judith Csehak talks about winning the confidence of the young, and to do this the housing problem must be solved. It has long been said in socialist countries that in Hungary you can only get an apartment if you have money.

Judith Csehak believes that 10 percent of the population live on the margins of society. You also have to include among the poor those whose earnings do not come up to the national average.

"I think that there will also be poor people in rich countries. In Hungary, it is not like it was after the war or in the fifties. But if we take an ordinary family with two children, we can call them poor because they cannot increase their income. So I think it is important that we have special measures: This family must be able to receive financial aid if it asks for it."

Before she became a politician, Judith Csehak was a family physician in the country. Now she is also health minister. How does she view the spread of ill-health in Hungary, manifested in excessive mortality among middle-aged men and in the spread of several illnesses?

"I think that a lot also has to do with lifestyle. As deputy prime minister, I was involved in setting up a program for this—with some help from voluntary organizations. We want to see whether alcohol, the environment, or poisons cause heart attacks. I hope that among everything that crosses our borders, something useful might find its way here sometime—not only programs for drugs problems but ones for jogging and fitness."

In socialist countries, the population has long been distrustful of free health care, and in Hungary people are now talking about making some areas self-supporting. This would cover health care.

"If people do not pay for their health care, they value it less. That is why some people think that we ought to have tariffs. I myself think," Judith Csehak said, "that preventive health care must be guaranteed by the state. But some of the treatment could perhaps be paid for privately. Now we are beginning to introduce social insurance—this will include dental care."

Introducing a younger person like Csehak with practical experience from the field into the new, slimmed-down Hungarian Government was part of the new emergency plan for the Hungarian economy. But despite the fact that her ministry is new and is a demonstration of a new political willingness, it does not receive enough money.

"I think I need a lot more. But now I am trying to get money from elsewhere, through other channels of society and not through parliament."

Judith Csehak was also elected to the Politburo at the same time as she became social affairs minister. There, too, she is the only woman (as she is among ministers proper). A question about how things are for women in Hungary is, therefore, almost obligatory.

Csehak thinks that women have a better time of it now, at least in the field of education. More than 50 percent of students are now women, and 80 percent of women work. What is bad is that women are away from the children for so long during the day, and that there is no part-time work or 6-hour days.

"Hungarian men also get paternity leave now if they want it, but it is more often the women who stay home. When I was young, I just could not imagine being at home with the children, and when my daughter was little, I was on duty at the hospital every night. Now she has a child and is at home. But we also have a law that the grandmother in the family is paid for staying at home if that is more suitable."

But Hungarian men are no more conservative than other men, Judith Csehak said, so a change of attitude will come even if things go slowly!

"Socialism is only socialism if people can speak their minds. I cannot imagine a socialism which is unacceptable to 10 million Hungarians. It is obvious that not everyone will like the party program, but we have to take up the ideas of the majority. That is why we have to change the party's work style.

"I think that people are wrong if they imagine that Hungary would be like Sweden if we introduced capitalism. But I think that we now have to live with reform and continual changes. Our difficulties mean that we have to tolerate things. I think that the political debate is enlivened by this. I hope so."

News Conference Held on Business Regulation

AU191410 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 15 Apr 88 p 4

[Text] At the latest meeting of the Committee for Planned Economy of the Council of Ministers, Secretary Peter Kunos was authorized to inform the press about the government position concerning the regulation of various ventures. In his press conference, Peter Kunos said that the government will do its best to implement a competition-free regulation as soon as possible. This will ensure that those active in the economy have identical conditions on the market. A draft bill on a uniform entrepreneurial tax will be submitted to the National Assembly this year and the government hopes to have the current separate tax that burdens small ventures eliminated as of 1 January 1989. Economic management regards the role played by small enterprises and ventures as extremely important. It also attaches great significance to the need for people active in various types of ventures to feel secure and be able to work and plan for the long term on the basis of valid regulations.

Peter Kunos also mentioned that the government finds it promising that, ever since the elimination of the obligation to announce price increases in advance, the majority of economic organizations have been exercising restraint and have not increased their prices. This gesture reflects confidence in the government's stabilization program and recognition that maintenance of the planned level of price increases is in the interest of all consumers and producers.

Trade Bank To Issue Credit Cards, Dividends

LD212050 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1630 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Out of its profits of 3 billion forints last year, the Hungarian Foreign Trade Bank will pay a 12 percent dividend to its shareholders. This has been decided by the bank's general assembly. Gabor Erdei, president and managing director of the Foreign Trade Bank, told representatives of the shareholders of his desire to continue pursuing a reliable business policy. The general assembly also agreed, and voted that nearly two-thirds of the profits should be used for creating reserves.

It was also decided that further shares will be issued this year. There is a desire to raise their fixed capital from the current 4.3 billion forints to 6 or 7 billion forints. They also plan to join one of the international credit card systems. If the plan is put into effect, the Hungarian Foreign Trade Bank will be the first of the socialist countries' banks to issue Visa credit cards.

Steelworkers Demand Pay Raise, Threaten Strike

AU221054 Paris AFP in English
1050 GMT 22 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 22 (AFP)—Some 5,000 steelworkers at the Stalowa-Wola steelworks in central Poland, have threatened to go on strike unless they are paid more to compensate for rising prices, Polish opposition sources said Friday.

The workers, about one quarter of the plant's total workforce, staged an unofficial union meeting outside the management windows on Thursday.

Factory sirens were used to try to drown out the speakers, but police did not intervene, according to Zbigniew Romaszewski of the banned Polish League of Human Rights.

A young trade union militant, Wieslaw Wojtas was loudly applauded when he called for a wage rise of 20,000 zlotys (about 50 dollars) to help compensate for a massive increase in the cost of living this year.

He said the banned Solidarity union would call on workers to strike unless their demands were "satisfied rapidly".

Food prices have risen by an average of 40 percent, coal by 200 percent, gas, electricity and rents by around 100 percent as part of a government programme of restructuring and "economic realism".

Mr. Romaszewski said police tried to arrest Mr. Wojtas on Thursday evening but he had managed to escape. However another union militant, Wladyslaw Diwak was detained after police entered and searched his home. Mr. Wojtas and Mr. Diwak are co-leaders of the unofficial Solidarity Committee in Stalowa-Wola.

Meanwhile, in Wroclaw, southwest Poland, nearly 500 people, mostly students, demonstrated Thursday to demand the release of Radoslaw Gawlik, a trade union activist sentenced on Wednesday to two months imprisonment for "parasitism".

Mr. Gawlik was sacked from his job last year for his union activities and has been unable to find work since.

Work of Sejm Session Detailed

LD211639 Warsaw PAP in English
1221 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 21—The Sejm closed its two-day meeting here today. The deputies acquainted themselves with a government plan of work to intensify housing construction and passed the relevant draft laws on to the Sejm committees involved.

Many of those who are passively awaiting the allocation of flats will use their abilities and pay considerable sums if actual and not make believe possibilities to get a flat are created—this assertion of Deputy Mieczyslaw Serwinski is a conclusion reached by many deputies during the debate.

When the discussion was over, questions asked by deputies were answered by Minister of Spatial Economy and Construction Bogumul Ferensztajn.

Replying to the expressed doubts, he assured the deputies that as it was during the work on the submitted work plan, in its implementation too the knowledge, experience, and involvement of specialists and public opinion will be used.

The programme, he stressed, remains open to any changes and modifications permitting to improve the mechanisms stimulating enterprises to better work and reaching socially desirable effects.

Today's agenda also covered a few more items of which the most important was the first reading of government draft amendments to the law on the principles of creating factory pay systems. The proposal was presented by Minister Ireneusz Sekula, who has headed the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs for two months now.

Alfred Miodowicz, the chairman of the OPZZ All-Poland Trade Union Alliance took the floor during the discussion. He stated that the trade union movement endorsed the amendment of this law because this gave an opportunity to a least partially marshal the wage policy. For many years it has constituted a neuralgic section of our growing ineffectiveness of the mechanisms of steering wages thus far. Wages to an increasing degree resemble compensation for price hikes. The hitherto principles have not contributed to either balance on the labour market or the flow of the labour force to the most efficient enterprises, Miodowicz said.

The range of bids by tenders is too broad, to the disadvantage of the influence of economic instruments. The trade unionists are increasingly worried by this situation. Such a policy winds up inflation and bears a negative impact on the living standard of working people, the deputy points out.

We, therefore, see a need to expediently perfect the pay system with a view to strengthening the link between individual wages and work results, Miodowicz said.

He appealed for a stop to the so-called perfection of the law within the frame of executive regulations after it was passed. He also proposed that the Sejm consider whether the two-level system of agreements should not be complemented by a general social agreement which would describe on the central level certain general frame of social policy with consideration given to the current situation in Poland.

At its meeting which ended Thursday, the Sejm adopted a law on the employees holiday fund (1,460 buildings, of which 87 percent are over 40 years old). The law, initiated by the deputies themselves, is also aimed at creating better conditions for the fund to organize holidays and preventive treatment for worker crews, especially for people employed in conditions hazardous or strenuous to health. The Sejm took account of the proposals of the socio-economic council attached to the Sejm on the need to introduce legal solutions which would enable children and youth from heavily polluted regions to enjoy additional holidays.

At the end of the meeting the Sejm heard government replies to deputies' questions.

Daily Praises 1943 Ghetto Uprising

AU211824 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
19 Apr 88 p 2

[Marek Jaworski commentary: "Dignity and Humanity"]

[Excerpts] Early in the morning on 19 April 1943, the SS tanks and armored units entered the Warsaw ghetto, which had been earlier surrounded by special guards. These units, which acted on orders issued by Himmler on 16 February for the liquidation of the ghetto and its population, met with resistance at the corners of Nalewki and Gesia Streets and of Mila and Zamenhof Streets, where grenades and gasoline bottles continued to be thrown from surrounding houses. Tanks went up in flames and dead and wounded men began to litter the streets. The attack of the SS units broke down.

This is how the Warsaw ghetto uprising began 45 years ago. It was an event that has been recorded in history as one of the noblest examples of combat, heroism, and martyrdom of Polish Jews during World War II and one of the most dramatic episodes of the criminal annihilation of the Jewish people. The Jewish insurgents, who were mostly members of the Jewish Combat Organization, did not fight for their lives and survival, because, from the military viewpoint, their action had no chance of success in the situation then existing. They were primarily concerned for higher values—for the honor and dignity of man, for setting examples of courage and sacrifice, and for protesting Hitlerite genocide. [passage omitted]

The present ceremonies to honor the 45th anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising have coincided with a period of renewed great interest in Poland in common Polish-Jewish history stretching for centuries, in the role of Polish Jews in our cultural, economic, and social life, and in our common fate. This increased interest also embraces the last phase of the common fate prepared for Poles and Jews by the Hitlerites. Over 6 million of our citizens perished during the war, and Poles and Polish Jews accounted for about 3 million of them each. Our enemy and our destiny were the same. Hitler had similar plans for us. We shared common hopes and common struggles. Polish Jews fought as soldiers and officers in the 1939 Polish campaign, at Lenino, and at Monte Cassino. There were more things in our common history that linked us than divided us. This truth should be well served by this year's ceremonies to honor the uprising anniversary.

The Warsaw ghetto uprising belongs to the history of the Polish and Jewish peoples, both of whom honor it by special remembrance. The present ceremonies are being attended by delegations of Jewish communities from all over the world, including Israel. Representatives of Jewish international organizations are present. Polish and Jewish veterans are participating as comrades in battle in the present ceremonies, whose extensive program continues to be described by the press. The Warsaw people are participating in these ceremonies in large numbers.

The heroes of the ghetto battles took up arms in defense of dignity of man and of the nation, but they have also left us important messages about the cruelty of war and about the shameful effects of racism, intolerance, and hatred. It is unfortunate that these messages are still topical in the present world. The Jewish and Polish flags raised by the insurgents in the ghetto represented a significant symbol, which was yet another important message from the ghetto heroes, a message dear and close to us.

Rakowski Interviewed on Restructuring

LD202122 Warsaw Television Service in Polish
2020 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Interview with Politburo member Mieczyslaw Rakowski and Ryszard Swierkowski by Ludwik Krasucki entitled "We and Restructuring" as part of the "Arguments" series; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Krasucki] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Many discussions have been held, many papers delivered, many books and articles written on the subject of Poles and the Soviet Union. Today all discussions on this subject, due to the historic significance of the transformations that are taking place in the Soviet Union, are addressed to the subject: Poles and this, which in Russian is called restructuring, and the word that we have the right to use as such because, like the other Russian word, openness, it is part of the international vocabulary.

I would like us to start by attempting to examine the following issue: What, really, is restructuring? Is it an objective need of the expression and development of socialism, or an act of subjective will of a leader or a leadership group? Was restructuring ordered [zamowiona] by historical processes or did it arise as a result of the subjective ideas of a group of people wielding power in the Soviet Union? I think we have to start with this, as this issue contains the key to understanding the process we are witnessing, and in which we are participating in Poland.

[Rakowski] I think the answer to these questions is obvious, namely the restructuring, or the reconstruction, the reconstruction program of every sphere of life of the Soviet Union—social, economic, cultural, and political reconstruction—was enforced by the development of history or rather by the development of the Soviet Union, not only in recent years, but throughout decades. One has to point out, as Soviet leaders say and as the historians or publicists, in the last 15 years, have said since the downfall of Khrushchev, that is since 1964, the Soviet Union has entered, as they put it, a period of stagnation. Before the program of reconstruction was announced it was said that this period of stagnation created a precrisis situation. In other words, the development in various spheres was minimal, or virtually none.

This meant that the Soviet Union was regressing, particularly in the economic and social spheres. The situation, therefore, was enforced. But one must remember, I think, that in the Soviet Union, during the period of stagnation, there were people who were active in politics and science, who were not only aware that something bad was happening, that a blockage had occurred, but who were already working on the concept that was later to be called reconstruction. These groups of scholars, who already at the begining of the seventies clearly recognized the situation, and the leaders—please note that the first modest attempts to break through this awful chain of stagnation were undertaken in times of Andropov, that is in 1983. But Andropov became secretary general as a sick man, and if I remember correctly, was the general secretary for 16 months.

Certain steps began then, Gorbachev was already in the party leadership, which we must also remember; the sorting out of large scale economic corruption, for instance such as that in Uzbekistan, where 4 billion rubles were misappropriated. This sorting out—an ugly word, but I cannot find a better one...

[Krasucki, interrupting] ...It corresponds to reality in this case...

[Rakowski, interrupting] ...Yes, this whole criminal group, right up to the chairman of the Council of Ministers of Uzbekistan, began to be dealt with in 1983.

[Krasucki] In other words, restructuring was in response to the demands of history.

[Swierkowski] Yes, here I would like to put this question in a broader historical context, what has been presented as controversial can in fact be supplemented dialectically. The point concerns the great subject of sense and the driving forces of human history. [passage omitted]

[Krasucki] We cannot dwell in more detail on this issue as we have not got enough time. I would like to ask you questions. Of course, the need for restructuring was maturing, expressed mainly in the necessity to abolish negative factors. But why did the course of events go this way and not another? Why did the period called the period of stagnation last so long? Why did the symptoms, that were visible in 1985 to the same degree as in say, 1978, when everything occured, including the fall in oil prices, and the need to import a lot of grain, why now and not then?

[Rakowski] Well, probably because even those who knew their way around the Soviet establishment, the leadership of Soviet politicians, intellectuals, and economists, those who were aware of these negative processes, were not fully aware of the scale of these processes. In connection with this they probably did not see the possibility of opposing them or even the need to oppose them. I cannot really tell. Then there are other reasons. We must remember what happened after the departure of Khrushchev. What happened was not a return to Stalinism, of course, but a return to cultivation of set political and economic structures.

After all, approval was given as early as 1965, after Khrushchev had gone, for economic reform...

[Krasucki, interrupting] The Kosygin reform.

[Rakowski] That's right. And it went awry. After that there was a continuation of the old guard, the old guard which had its origins in the interwar years and particularly from the war years. I'm thinking of Brezhnev here, for instance. It, too, created certain situations that did not permit, in my opinion, an entry into the new stage of development, which the team led by Gorbachev entered in April 1985. But one moment has to be taken into account here. It can be seen clearly, when one analyzes the development of the situation in the Soviet Union—and Gorbachev has said it several times over the past few years, in any case—that at the beginning, we didn't realize the dimensions of all the problems and hence, for example, the first successful plenum in April 1985. It can be described as such, recognized as such today; it only launched the superficial slogan of speeding up the socioeconomic development of the Soviet Union. But all the measures put forward at the time were measures of an organizational nature, streamlining measures—for there appeared a word well known to us: perfecting [doskonalenie] the mechanisms. If one wants to perfect something, it means the mechanism is in order, but it has to be oiled or put it in a different place, and so forth and so on.

[Krasucki] Only the greatness or the significance of the April Plenum consists in what one British journalist, fascinated by restructuring, described succinctly as: He said that to open the door wide, it first has to be halfway opened; and that was what was done.

[Swierkowski] I'd like to talk here about how this happens, so as to dot the i's of the question on the objective need or imperative, and the role of the individual, the role of that great man. This is no new problem. [passage omitted]

[Rakowski] I propose that we go on to a large area, the Soviet Union; we are beginning to talk about history here. Of course, it is essential, but in connection with what you said about the role of the individual, I'd like to ask this question. How would you comment on this, namely: it was 1985 or 1986, I think; the editor-in-chief of L'UNITA was interviewing Gorbachev and he said: Comrade Gorbachev, you are a world famous person; you are the man who has set in motion the whole machinery, and Gorbachev replied that if it hadn't been Gorbachev, it would have been someone else. Do you think that is true?

[Krasucki] That's a difficult question.

[Swierkowski] A difficult question, a simple answer. It probably would have been someone else, but not at that time, perhaps. Maybe later.

[Rakowski] I would put it the other way around: It might have been at the same time, but it wouldn't have been someone like Gorbachev.

[Krasucki] Yes, indeed. That is possible, too. I think, with all respect to Gorbachev, it has to be said that Gorbachev didn't come on his own. It is probably exceptionally important that Gorbachev became general secretary at the moment when a whole large group was forming, representing the same trend, when certian views and proposals were maturing in various groups of the intelligentsia.

[Rakowski] I said that before, didn't I? However, how large that group of party activists was—let us call it that—which arrived together with Gorbachev in April 1985, it's hard for us to say today. All we know is that at the 27th Congress, he made his speech to the delegates, the majority of whom were delegates from the Brezhnev era. Speaking of Gorbachev, I think that if he was listening to our program he wouldn't be pleased, because, as a result of the situation that has developed in the Soviet Union, i.e. the cult of Stalin, Soviet leaders, Mikhail Gorbachev included, are very reluctant to accept any prominence being given to one individual. These are painful consequences, basically, of the cult of the individual, or Stalinism, because Gorbachev—this can be seen and I am repeating what is being said throughout the world—really is a born politician, a great speaker. He really does know how to make contact with people, isn't stiff. But the lessons of the past have such a far reaching function even today in Soviet society, that the leader has a natural, so to speak, fear of personal exposure, because he may immediately be accused of starting a new cult. In the past few weeks such accusations have been made. I read a letter from a woman reader published in IZVESTIYA, despite the fact that she ended the letter by saying that they certainly wouldn't publish it; she warned against the overexposure of Gorbachev.

[Krasucki] But here a certain problem arises, which again shows the identity of the problems we are dealing with there and here as well. It is the problem, named indirectly at the plenum, the Soviet plenum devoted to education, that is to say a thesis appeared there on the need for a pluralism of views inside the party. This conceals the problem of a more profoundly understood process: that it should be permissible to criticize not only the previous, but also the current general secretary, for that is basically the key to the whole issue.

Now, gentlemen, the second question.

[Swierkowski] So we do not practice the cult of personality again.

[Krasucki] No, because the remedy for the cult of personality consists in being able to say openly, publicly, what one thinks of the negative sides of the activity of the current boss.

[Krasucki] Everyone can speak about the errors of the previous boss.

[Rakowski] Such used to be the practice.

[Krasucki] Could you now, gentlemen, speak about another issue. I have to go back to Gorbachev. He used a phrase that what is needed in the Soviet Union is a revolutionary process. This is what he called it, a revolutionary process. We got used to the fact that revolutions change the system. Is restructuring a change of the system or is it the change of the model in which the system manifests itself? How can one apply the word revolutionary to the situation in which profound changes at the same time are to ensure the continuity and effectiveness of the existing system?

[Rakowski] I think we have a certain misunderstanding here. For me the system means the structures: economic, political, social, which arise on the foundations of the defined system's principles. I apply this kind of thinking all the time. But this is just by the way. On the other hand, is it the change of the model? No, I do not think that this is just a change of the model. This is something more, this is the change of the system as I understand it, that is the profound reconstruction of structures that were created over decades, of which a large number is not useful. That is why, I think, the changes are described as revolutionary, because they do not change one model, say of the economy, to another—this is the change of models, whereas the system change involves the concepts of the kind that will turn upside down the given economic model. For instance, if it is said today in the Soviet Union what must be done in the economy, then in relation to what functioned for many years in the Soviet economy, this involves turning things upside down.

[Krasucki] So according to you this is a change in the system, inside the same political system, the same system principles.

[Rakowski] The same principles, that is, nobody will abolish public ownership, nobody will abolish the achievements of socialist revolution such as general education, culture; nobody will abolish the position of the working people in the state following the changes in the system.

[Krasucki] So if the word revolution was used, nobody will abolish the October Revolution, although it is under lively discussion as to what extent it applied stimuli in the period of stagnation and what can be done to return to these stimuli in a new and creative way. [passage omitted]

[Swierkowski] Anyway, the change of the model can be—if we treat this as a change not of the system but of the model—so deep that it appears that the changes in fact concern the system. And I think that it would be worthwhile, irrespective of this, we may argue here, to ponder on people's attitude toward this, even toward the uncertainty whether the change concerns the system not the model. It seems to me that human behavior varies depending on whether it is only a change of the model, or the system, or the change of rulers, the political system. The behavior can be different.

[Krasucki] Human behavior is what I am interested in because of a certain historical parallel. Recently, Roosevelt and the New Deal have been appearing. In the Western press, also in our country, one talks about a classic process of transformation within a political system to which the United States was subjected. When we come back to that period we observe certain similarities. At the time when Roosevelt was struggling against the crisis and was establishing the New Deal, which was primarily economic, the assessment by the left was that a quick downfall of capitalism was approaching inevitably. At the same time, the entire U.S. right accused Roosevelt of selling out U.S. principles to the Reds. It turned out that Roosevelt saved capitalism and relaunched it.

I think that, taking into consideration all the differences, perhaps the most appropriate definition of what is happening in the Soviet Union is an entire package of reforms, and I would most preferably stay with this safe definition. Probably the term revolutionary process has been used with reference to restructuring because of the particularly noisy and, I would say, beautiful sound of the word revolutionary in the homeland of restructuring.

[Swierkowski] And not only there, and because of the squandering of some revolutionary ideals that took place.

[Rakowski] I do not agree with this. I think that the changes which the concept of restructuring forecasts, or the concept that is inherent in restructuring, all what is occurring in the Soviet Union at present, in the last 2 years, or last year in the Soviet Union, from the point of view of millions of Soviet citizens and their way of thinking. It is a real change of a revolutionary nature.

[Krasucki] An earthquake.

[Rakowski] Yes, an earthquake.

[Krasucki] But can this be felt by millions of citizens where they live?

[Rakowski] I am approaching this because the editor was saying that one ought to be careful in making definitions, and I would say one ought to be careful in forming opinions, as it is still not known what may happen, what fate will hold. One should make a reservation here that we are talking about certain changes that have been occurring or are occurring in the avant garde of Soviet society. I mean the people who make up the ruling team...

[Krasucki, interrupting]...Yes.

[Rakowski]...in a broader sense, the elite. For very many, very interesting, and important for the future of the Soviet Union, concepts are still not being implemented. One talks about them, but...

[Swierkowski, interrupting] The conditions are not yet ripe.

[Rakowski] The conditions are not ripe. Society has not grown up to them. I will move here to the next point: in Soviet society there are very considerable groups, factions that see the restructuring as something invented in Moscow...

[Swierkowski, interrupting]...it is not known what it will bring...

[Rakowski, interrupting]...by perhaps wise people, but we have already had various experiences, and it is better to wait. In fact, here the significant difference between ourselves and the Soviet Union is that in Poland the entire process of reforms started under the impact of movement from below, didn't it? It concerned both the party, and later in 1981...

[Swierkowski, interrupting]...the explosion of social discontent.

[Krasucki] [word indistinct] when Solidarity...

[Krasucki] This is the deep difference. The process that commenced after the explosion and the process that had time to develop before the explosion.

[Rakowski] And there the concept of restructuring was presented by the top. I do not know how many years will pass before the basic mass of Soviet society will be persuaded that it is worthwhile to participate actively in restructuring, to use certain terms to be brief. In Soviet political literature and speeches at the moment one says that the majority of society supports restructuring. I do not question this, it certainly supports it, but the problem is...

[Swierkowski, interrupting] What does supports mean?

[Rakowski] And how does it support it?

[Swierkowski] To what extent? Yes.

[Rakowski] If you take for example the economic reform in Poland. Everyone supports the economic reform, I have not met anyone who said that he is against the reform.

[Swierkowski] There are some.

[Rakowski] However, the issue is what this support means.

[Krasucki] You know, gentlemen, it reminds me of an article published in PRAVDA in response to a letter published in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA from Mrs Andreyeva who, in very thunderous way, questioned restructuring. It contained the following reasoning: the essence of the process is to perform well not only things that have been ordered from above, but also to add to it one's own initiative, and this is perhaps more difficult.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have been unable to exhaust the topic, it occupies whole pages of world press, it fills hours on all world television services, it has become the subject of many books. Recently I read that seven or eight quasiscientific biographies of Gorbachev have appeared.

Restructuring has become a world fascinating topic, undoubtedly it is a great chance for Poland, and for the entire socialist system, and undoubtedly our responsibility for the modest Polish sector of the process is at the same time a touchstone of the process. And, having no aspirations to save the world, and not returning to the term: elephant and the cause of Poland, we can contribute toward its success, of what we in Poland call renewal, of a much greater, much deeper, more important operation that will directly influence the fate of the world. Goodnight.

Government Presidium Studies Energy Policy

LD190533 Warsaw PAP in English
1959 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 18—During a meeting here today the Government Presidium acquainted itself with an electric energy balance until the year 2000 and an evaluation of the state of the realization of the programme of the development of atomic power.

Poland's demand for electric power and fuels at the end of this century will increase by over 40 percent in comparison with 1985 and will exceed 240 million tonnes of coal equivalent. Production capacities and imports of fuels and energy up to the year 2000 may reach a level slightly above 220 million tce. This means that, beginning with 1995, Poland may be threatened with a growing energy and fuel deficit.

Savings undertakings in the national economy, which include, among other things, a radical decrease of the production of energy-intensive materials and resources, as well as the implementation of energy-saving technological solutions may lead to a 19-20 percent drop in the energy-intensity of the national income by the year 2000.

According to experts a reduction of the energy deficit in the year 2000 may be achieved solely through the construction of nuclear power plants.

The Government Presidium made a preliminary evaluation of the finance minister's actions in his capacity as an organ combating monopolist practices in the national economy.

The anti-monopoly policy should according to the participants, first of all aim at combating the exploitation by enterprises of their monopolist position and at eliminating economically unjustified organizational structures in the economy.

The Government Presidium acquainted itself with the state of vocational training in Poland and a concept of its development.

The reform of the vocational training system, underway for the last two years, widens and adapts specialist training programmes to the actual needs of the national economy and envisages a significant improvement in the equipping of such schools in educational materials and aids.

Baryla Addresses Conference on Patriotism

AU191840 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
16-17 Apr 88 p 2

[Report on speech by Jozef Baryla, Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, at the 15 April session of the Bydgoszcz conference devoted to the patriotic-defense upbringing of the younger generation]

[Text] J. Baryla said that patriotism, defense, the fatherland, the people, and the state are fundamental symbols, which are always alive—in times of stability and in times of difficulties. Patriotism is a force that ennobles and inspires and that is still alive. Its value continues to grow right now when our economy is being reformed, when democratic changes are continuing, and when the manner of government is being improved. We will not be able to reform our economy if patriotic young people do not commit themselves to this task—young people who are full of courage and dedication, who want to face reasonable risks, who are ready to act, who are not frightened by any difficulties, and who are sensitive but stubborn, militant, and consistent in reaching their goals. In other words, our problem is cadres, young cadres, and the coming plenum will tackle it.

J. Baryla strongly stressed the present significance of the importance of work. Life continues to prove that we have still not achieved a breakthrough in our attitude toward work. For dozens and dozens of years we have been closer to romantic traditions than to realistic work, the enterprising spirit, and civic militancy. That is why we hope that the reformed economic mechanisms will compel us to work more effectively. At the same time, we must do all we can to ensure that our young people are trained in respect for work. The family and the school should play the basic role in this task.

J. Baryla discussed the issue of education in history and stressed that the educational system is the leading force in this regard. No matter how we view this issue, we must begin with its source—the authority of the school and the university. Referring to defense upbringing, J. Baryla said that training young people for defense of the fatherland is always an important and topical task, but that this training must be modern and must be freed of all unnecessary subjects, of mechanically memorizing various regulations, and so on. Defense training and military studies should be primarily places of patriotic education and of learning the defense doctrine, the nature of the armed forces, and the service for the fatherland.

Leaders Attend Soviet Embassy Reception

LD212253 Warsaw PAP in English
2137 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 21—On the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the Polish-Soviet Treaty on Friendship, Mutual Assistance and Cooperation Soviet Charge d'Affaires Metchislav Senkevich gave a reception at the USSR's Embassy here today.

Present were Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner, Sejm Speaker Roman Malinowski and Chairman of the PRON (Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth) National Council Jan Dobraczynski.

Also present were Political Bureau and PUWP CC Secretariat members, and among them: Kazimierz Barcikowski, Czeslaw Kiszczak, Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski, Marian Orzechowski, Florian Siwicki as well as the vice-presidents of the council of state: and other officials. Other guests included members of the Council of State, Sejm deputies, representatives of Warsaw authorities, representatives of culture and science, social activists, activists of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society, generals of the Polish Army.

Also attending were delegations of the central board of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society, of the Soviet Army and the Warsaw Treaty command. Present were heads and members of diplomatic missions in Warsaw.

The reception passed in a cordial, friendly atmosphere.

Ciosek Addresses Gala

LD212122 Warsaw PAP in English
1923 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 21—At a gala meeting held on Thursday to mark the 43rd anniversary of the signing of the treaty of friendship between Poland and the Soviet Union, PUWP CC secretary Stanislaw Ciosek said among other things:

The vitality of interstate treaties depends on whether conclusions ensuing from history and future needs have been interpreted in them in a right way. The 43 years that have passed since the signing of the Polish-Soviet treaty on friendship, mutual assistance and post-war cooperation have proved that this has just been the case.

The ideas of the April treaty have passed the test of practice in hard times. We marched side by side through successive ordeals of history and we were jointly looking for ways of fully meeting its challenges.

The 1980's stand out in this respect. Disturbances which caused a profound upheaval in Poland in the beginning of this decade gave way to a broader-than-ever perspective. The course and outcome of developments turned out to be quite different than anti-socialist scenarios planned.

This proved possible thanks to creative stimuli and invigorating currents of deep reforms and to the ideological harmony of renewal and perestroyka.

The objective greatness of recent accomplishments is increasingly reflected in the subjective feelings of millions of Poles.

An ally, true and powerful, lasting and unfailing, is a great achievement of the turn in Polish-Soviet relations.

Such is our heritage to which we are and will always be faithful.

The new contents of socialism require above all changes in economic relations.

An equally new approach is also required by the sphere of cooperation both in bilateral planes and within the CMEA.

A new phase of cooperation has started, characterized by tighter coordination of national economic plans, development of specialization and cooperation, joint solving of complex economic problems.

Under way got the process of developing new forms of cooperation, formation of joint economic organisms, realization of joint investment and research-development ventures, acceleration of the flow of modern techniques and technologies of production. Direct cooperation has been established by over 300 Polish enterprises and scientific-research centres.

We attach great importance to the current working out of the concept of our economic, scientific and technological cooperation for the nearest 10-15 years. It will be a significant part of the future collective vision of the international socialist division of labour among CMEA states till the year 2005.

One can state with satisfaction that decisions made during the recent visit of Comrade Zbigniew Messner, his working meetings with Comrade Nikolay Ryzhkov irrefutably confirm these principles and will well serve their implementation. As concerns such vitally important issues as supplies of fuels and raw materials, repayment of our hard currency debt, the share of Soviet credits in completing mothballed investments and further development of trade, we met with full understanding of our needs and confidence in the far-reaching effectiveness of our reform. It is an injection of optimism for us but also an obligation to consistent activities, to partner-like honesty.

New forms of cooperation in the economy cannot be separated from new contents of cooperation in ideology, science and culture, in the whole sphere of superstructure. The declaration of April last year, implemented in this respect, is an innovatory document in relations between fraternal parties, a specific manifesto of perestroyka and renewal, of their harmony and interdependence.

The developing climate of openness, sincerity and respect in Polish-Soviet relations is conducive to explaining difficult, often painful chapters of the past. It is in this spirit and with this purpose that the joint commission of Polish and Soviet historians has been working.

Today Polish-Soviet cooperation is developing in a more favourable international atmosphere. Mankind is already getting practically acquainted with the universal, humanistic message of Soviet transformations. The world has become more secure. There is more hope, more space for security and for the atmosphere of cooperation.

In modern realities a particular role is played by Soviet-American dialogue. Poland welcomed with satisfaction the signing of a historically first agreement leading to real disarmament—the Treaty on Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. We also hope that the next Soviet-American meeting at the highest level, which will be held in Moscow soon, will create a chance for liquidation of the most dangerous weapons of our times—strategic missiles, thus bringing closer the vision of a world free from nuclear arms and violence. Poland has been contributing to disarmament dialogue, concentrating first of all on the issues of Europe. The recent confirmation of Poland's activeness is the proposal of reducing armaments and increasing confidence in Europe, called the "Jaruzelski Plan". Soon another concretization of the plan will take place to meet halfway proposals carried by ever broader international dialogue around this country's new initiative.

Nothing comes easy and nothing is born all by itself. But nobody who is objective will deny the fact that the Polish-Soviet alliance dynamically develops and gets enriched, becomes increasingly mature and effective. We are convinced that the coming official visit to this country by CPSU CC General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev will be both an unequivocal confirmation of and an immense stimulus for this process.

Bulgarian Foreign Minister To Visit

LD211945 Warsaw PAP in English
1816 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 21—Member of the Political Bureau of the Bulgarian Communist Party CC, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria Petur Mladenov will pay an official visit of friendship to Poland at the end of April at the invitation of PUWP CC Political Bureau member, Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs Marian Orzechowski.

Czyrek Meets FRG Politicians in Bonn

LD220202 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1700 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Jozef Czyrek, who is on an official visit, today listened to a parliamentary debate on tax reform in the FRG from the platform of honor in the Bundestag. Welcoming the Polish guest, Bundestag President Philipp Jenninger stated that the talks Jozef Czyrek was holding in Bonn were a practical implementation of the postulates of both parliaments and all parties sitting in them, aimed at broadening relations between the states. The need to take specific steps in this area was confirmed during the Polish guest's talks with head of the Chancellor's Office, Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble.

In the afternoon Jozef Czyrek held talks with the chairman of the parliamentary faction, Hans-Jochen Vogel. The PZPR and the SPD have undertaken a joint initiative and drawn up documents, whose implementation would permit the consolidation of security and confidence-building measures in Europe.

Today the Politburo member and secretary of the party Central Committee met with the chairman of the Liberal Party faction, Wolfgang Mischnick, and Green Party spokesman Helmut Lippelt.

Malinowski Receives Netherlands Delegation

LD190529 Warsaw PAP in English
1947 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 18—A delegation of the Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs of the Second Chamber of the States-General of Holland with Chairman Joep de Boer is visiting Poland at the invitation from Chairman of the Sejm Foreign Affairs Committee Jozef Czyrek. Today the delegation was received by Sejm speaker Roman Malinowski. The Dutch parliamentarians got acquainted with the Sejm's participation in the implementaiton of the economic reform and the process of democratization.

The sides discussed the international activity of the Sejm, including the idea of convening a conference of chairmen of parliaments of the states of Europe, the U.S. and Canada. Stressed was the common will to develop cooperation between the Polish and Dutch parliaments.

Also today the delegation met with representatives of the Sejm Foreign Committee and its chairman Czyrek to exchange views on the ongoing changes in Poland against the background of the current world detente process.

Both meetings were attended by Holland's ambassador to Poland C. Maxime van Hanswijck de Jonge.

Orzechowski Meets Parliamentarians

LD191941 Warsaw PAP in English
1902 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 19—Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski received on Tuesday a delegation of the Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs of the Second Chamber of Holland's States-General with Joep de Boer.

The meeting was attended by Dutch Ambassador to Poland C. Maxime van Hanswijck de Jonge.

PZPR's Michalek Meets Cypriot President

LD190405 Warsaw PAP in English
2054 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Nicosia, April 18—Alternate Member of the Political Bureau and PUWP CC Secretary Zbigniew Michalek stayed in Cyprus in connection with the funeral of General Secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus Ezekias Papaioannou.

Michalek was received by Cypriot President Yeoryos Vasiliou who conveyed greetings for Wojciech Jaruzelski. Vasiliou thanked for Poland's support for actions aimed at a just settlement of the Cypriot question. He also expressed the will to further develop Polish-Cypriot relations, and mainly economic cooperation.

Michalek also met with members of the Political Bureau and secretaries of the Progressive Party of the Working People Central Committee Demetris Kristofias and Donis Kristofinis [name as received]. The sides positively assessed to cooperation of the two parties and pointed to further possibilities in this respect. They also stressed the favourable influence of party cooperation on the broadening of relations between Poland and Cyprus.

Political Talks With Yemen Held

AU180956 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
14 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] PAP—Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and deputy foreign minister, who visited Warsaw between 11 and 13 April, was received by M. Orzechowski, Politburo member and foreign minister, and by E. Kucza, head of the Central Committee Foreign Department, and had political consultations with J. Majewski, under secretary of state in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The sides exchanged views on key international and local issues, and confirmed their resolve to continue cooperation to strengthen peace and international security, to promote disarmament and equal cooperation, and to ensure political solutions to local conflicts. The sides called for an urgent settlement of the Middle East conflict though the convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Such a conference should be a true forum at which that conflict should be solved. The sides also stressed that lasting peace and stability in the Middle East are impossible without ensuring the necessary rights for the Palestinian people, and appealed for an immediate cessation of Iranian-Iraqi hostilities.

The sides reviewed their bilateral relations and expressed the conviction that a trade agreement will help to promote mutually advantageous Polish-Yemeni trade. Bilateral economic cooperation was discussed in detail during meetings in departments responsible for the economy.

Jaruzelski Receives Ambassador to Libya

LD182216 Warsaw PAP in English
1804 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 18—Wojciech Jaruzelski received here today Polish Ambassador to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Stanislaw Kukuryka.

Czyrek Receives Mozambican Parliamentary Group

LD182242 Warsaw PAP in English
1834 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 18—A delegation of the Mozambican People's Assembly today wound up its seven-day visit to Poland paid at the invitation from the Sejm Presidium. During their stay in this country the Mozambican parliamentarians called on Sejm (parliament) Speaker Roman Malinowski and vice-president of the Council of State Tadeusz Szelachowski, held talks in the Polish Foreign Ministry and in the Polish Committee for Solidarity with the Nations of Asia and Africa.

Today, PUWP CC Political Bureau member and chairman of the Sejm Foreign Affairs Committee Jozef Czyrek received the delegation, headed by Samuel Chambuca.

During the meeting a joint conviction was voiced that the visit by the delegation would constitute another step on the road to tightening the bonds of cooperation and friendship linking the two countries. Stressed was also the solidarity of the Polish people and authorities with the right struggle of the Mozambican people against the South African aggression.

Ceausescu Meets Batmonh, Ends Visit to Mongolia

AU211848 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1807 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (AGERPRES) 21/4/1988—Thursday, 2 April, ended the official good-will visit RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania, and Mme Elena Ceausescu paid to the Mongolian People's Republic invited by the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, Jambyn Batmonh, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural.

Before leaving, President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu were visited by Jambyn Batmonh and A. Dariimaa, the interview proceeding in the same warm, friendly atmosphere which characterised the progress of the entire Romanian-Mongolian summit dialogue. In this framework the two party and state leaders underscored the particular significance of the visit for the future evolution of the Romanian-Mongolian relations, the good results in which concluded the talks and which provide a wide framework to the development of the relations of friendship, to the collaboration in the economic, technological, scientific and other domains of mutual interest, to the collaboration between the RCP and the MPRP, between the two peoples, to mutual benefit and to that of peace, cooperation and understanding among nations.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu, accompanied by Jambyn Batmonh and A. Dariimaa left the residence for the airport, where the distinguished Romanian guests were saluted by Dumaagiyn Sodnom, member of the Political Bureau of the MPRP, chairman of the Council of Ministers, Demchigiyn Molomjamts, member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the CC of the MPRP, and other members of the Mongolian party and state leadership.

By the ramp, President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu warmly said good-bye to Jambyn Batmonh and A. Dariimaa.

Through its entire progress and the understandings reached, the visit has been a moment of utmost importance in the history of the Romanian-Mongolian relations of friendship and collaboration.

On its way back to the homeland, the presidential aircraft made a technical stop over in Novosibirsk.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu were saluted by V.A. Bokov, chairman of the Executive Committee of the region's soviet, V.A. Koptyug, vice-president of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, president of the Siberian section of the Academy, and other representatives of the local party and state leadership.

Communique Issued

AU212019 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1835 GMT 21 Apr 88

["Romanian-Mongolian Joint Communique"—AGERPRES headline—on President Nicolae Ceausescu's visit to the Mongolian People's Republic from 19-21 April]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, (AGERPRES) 21/4/1988—This document released at the end of the official goodwill visit RCP general secretary, Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu paid to the Mongolian People's Republic over April 19-21, 1988 shows that the distinguished Romanian guests conducted official talks with Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, chairman of the People's Great Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic, which passed in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. The two party and state leaders noted with satisfaction that the ties of friendship and collaboration between the Romanian Communist Party and the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Mongolian People's Republic developed successfully in all spheres, in the spirit of the treaty of friendship and collaboration between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Mongolian People's Republic, signed in 1983.

They reiterated their determination to further develop collaboration between the Romanian Communist Party and the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, intensify the exchanges of delegations and the swap of experience on the line of party and state bodies, of mass and cultural organizations.

Highlighting the positive results scored so far in economic, commercial, technical and scientific collaboration, the party and state leaders of the two countries agreed that sustained efforts should be made for the steady growth of commercial exchanges, the achievement of cooperation in production on stable, long-term and mutually advantageous based in harmony with the new possibilities and socioeconomic development programmes of the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Mongolian Peoples' Republic. In that context stress was laid on the importance of fulfilling the provisions of the long-term programme for the development of economic and technical-scientific cooperation between the two countries until the year 2000, for the further expansion and deepening of the Romanian-Mongolian cooperation.

The leaders of the two countries stated for the continuous growth of relations in science, culture, education, the press and sports.

The joint communique evinces the two countries' determination to work in future too, together with the other member states for the carrying into effect of the understandings adopted at the summit meetings of the CMEA member countries, of the complex programme for technical-scientific progress until the year 2000, as well as of the decisions of the 43rd CMEA session. The determination of Romania and Mongolia was reiterated to contribute to improving CMEA activity and enhancing the efficiency of the organization.

Expressing concern over the international situation which continues to be grave and complex, the two party and state leaders highlighted with satisfaction the positive tendencies manifesting in the international life, as a result of the steps taken by the socialist countries, by the democratic and realistic forces throughout the world, the communique shows stressing Nicolae Ceausescu and Jambyn Batmonh assessed that the halting of the arms race, the passage to disarmament, to nuclear disarmament in the first place, the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons, the liquidation of war threat and the ensurance of peoples' right to peace, security and existence were fundamental questions of our time.

The two party and state leaders assessed that the signing of the treaty between the Soviet Union and the USA eliminating intermediate- and shorter-range missiles was an historic event, the document shows adding that Romania and Mongolia spoke for continuous efforts and negotiations between the USSR and the U.S.A. with a view to agreeing on a 50-percent reduction of strategic nuclear weapons, the inadmissibility of space militarization, a complete and general banning of nuclear tests.

The two leaders are for the drafting and adoption, at the UN, of a complex disarmament programme, which should cover the liquidation of nuclear chemical and other weapons of mass destruction, a cut in troop and conventional weapons, the communique reads considering that the adoption of suchlike programme at the third UN General Assembly special session on disarmament would be apt to open prospects to international negotiations and steps towards halting the arms race and achieving disarmament.

Expressing support to any measure and initiative that favour a pacific, political solution to the situations of crisis and to the existing conflicts, the communique notes the two countries' determination to contribute to lessening military confrontations, in the interest of world peace and security.

The two party and state leaders underscored the need that accords and understandings should be covenanted at the Vienna Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe conducive to tangible confidence-building and disarmament measures, to the growth of relations and cooperation among all European countries.

They spoke for the transformation of the Balkans into a zone of peace, cooperation and good neighbourliness, free of nuclear and chemical weapons, of foreign military bases, expressing their support to creating suchlike zones in central and northern Europe, as well as in other parts of the world.

The two party and state leaders pointed to the current importance of implementing the programme of the Warsaw Treaty participating states on a 25 percent reduction of troops and conventional weapons, with an appropriate cut in the military spending of states.

The two state leaders assessed that the situation in Asia and the Pacific continued to be complex, and stressed the importance of the development of friendly cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual advantage among all the countries of Asia and the Pacific, no matter their social system and expressed support to the proposals and initiatives to attain this goal.

Romania and Mongolia militate for a comprehensive, just and durable solution to the Middle East problems, on the basis of Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, of the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, to an independent Palestinian state, of the guaranteeing of the integrity, sovereignty and security of all the states in the area, the document shows.

The two countries state for the calling, under UN aegis, of an international conference on the Middle East, to be attended by all the sides concerned, by PLO and the UN Security Council permanent members, too.

The two party and state leaders underscored the need for the cessation of the military conflict between Iran and Iraq as soon as possible, for its settlement by peaceful means, in consideration of the two countries' legitimate rights and in keeping with the UN Security Council Resolution 598.

Romania and Mongolia express their support to the initiatives and proposals advanced by the DPR of Korea for the country's peaceful reunification, without any outside interference, for the transformation of the Korean peninsula into a zone of peace, free of nuclear weapons.

The joint communique firmly blames South Africa's acts of aggression against the independent neighbouring states in southern Africa, as well as the apartheid policy and the repressive measures of the racist authorities against the majority population in that country, Romania and Mongolia declaring resolutely for the abolition of the apartheid policy and the granting of Namibia's independence as soon as possible, according to the Security Council Resolution 435.

Romania and Mongolia support the fight fought by the people's in Central America, the Caribbeans and by other Latin American countries in defence of their independence and self-reliant development, and state against any form of aggression and interference in their domestic affairs.

The document underscores the growing role and influence of the Nonaligned Movement in the constructive settlement of international issues, in the maintenance and consolidation of peace.

Considering that the resolution of world economic problems, the eradication of underdevelopment and the establishment of a new international economic order are imperative demands for the people's peace and security, Romania and Mongolia are for the calling of an international conference, at the UN, to be attended, on a equal footing by both developing and developed countries, so that mutually acceptable solutions may be reached conducive to the resolution of financial-currency questions, of the developing countries' foreign debt problem included.

The two countries state for the enhancement of the role and efficiency of the UN and of the other international organizations in the strengthening of international peace and collaboration, in line with realities in the contemporary world.

The joint communique reiterates the two parties' determination to work consistently for the strengthening of the unity and solidarity of the communist and worker parties, for broad cooperation and active dialogue, set on the observance of the principles of equality of rights, independence, each party's right to self-reliantly set its political line, its revolutionary strategy and tactics, in keeping with the specific conditions in which it carries on its activity. The RCP and the MPRP will further rate actively with all the communist and worker parties, with the national liberation movements, with the anti-imperialist and progressive forces everywhere that state for social progress, for disarmament and peace. The two countries' leaders expressed special appreciation for the positive results of the Romanian-Mongolian summit talks, which will have further impact on the expansion and deepening of the relations of friendship and collaboration between the RCP and the MPRP, between Romania and Mongolia.

The communique shows that President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu invited Jambyn Batmonh to pay an official visit of friendship to Romania. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

Ceausescu Condolence Cable Sent to 'Arafat

AU211827 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 18 Apr 88 p6

[Condolence telegram from Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the SR of Romania "To Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee" on the death of Khalil al-Wazir on 17 April]

[Text] To Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee

We have learned with profound indignation of the assassination of the deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolutionary Forces, Khalil al-Wazir.

In the name of the Romanian people, we forcefully condemn this terrorist action, and we reiterate our solidarity with the just cause of the Palestinian people.

We convey sincere condolences and feelings of deep compassion to the bereaved families.

Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the SR Romania

Giosan Attends Israel Anniversary Reception

AU211855 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1816 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 21/4/1988—Marking the 40th anniversary of the proclamation of the State of Israel, the ambassador of that country to Bucharest, Yosef Govrin, gave a reception on April 21.

The chairman of the Grand National Assembly, Nicolae Giosan, ministers, executives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of other ministries and central institutions, scientists, men of letters and journalists attended.

Heads of diplomatic missions accredited to Romania and members of the diplomatic corps took part.

Vaduva, Stanescu Receive FRG Businessmen

AU212021 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1908 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 21/4/1988—Ilie Vaduva, Romanian minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, received on Thursday, April 21, a delegation of businessmen from the "Quelle" concern of the Federal Republic of Germany, led by Harald Schroff, vice-president and member of the management board, who paid a visit to Romania.

Aspects were approached related to the expansion of exports of electrical engineering, the light industry and wood-working, the development of collaboration with specialized Romanian enterprises, tourism.

The delegation were also received by Ion Stanescu, Romanian minister of tourism.

Socialist Property Development Reviewed

AU211325 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1110 GMT 21 Apr 88

["Romania: Developing the Socialist Property"—AGERPRES headline]

[Excerpts] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 21/4/1988—The socialist property has been in Romania the sure foundation of its progress, enabling a unitary, coordinated and efficient effort for the growth of the national economic potential, warranting the achievement of the constitutional civic rights and freedoms, and strongly motivating social work and creation. [passage omitted]

The socialist property continued to expand through investment the aims of which were to improve the structure of the industry, to increase the production of machinery and equipment, to improve their performance and to modernize them, and to expand the social-cultural facilities. The number of state-owned industrial enterprises increased to 1,645 in 1985 from 1,319 in 1960, with those of state agricultural units going up to 992 from 803.

At present the industrial socialist property includes a number of 1,913 enterprises the fixed capital and personnel of which is not only diversified but also distributed across the territory. The property of socialist units is managed on a contract basis by the working collectivities which are held responsible for it. The cooperative property is the basis of various units—producer cooperative farms, handicraft cooperatives, and producer, acquisition and sales cooperatives. The cooperative farm property consists of the land, including the land given to cooperative members for their own use, the livestock, the public buildings, the production, etc. The producer cooperative farms rank foremost in importance in the country's agriculture, accounting for 60.3 per cent of the total farmland and 72.6 per cent of the total arable land. In 1985 there were 4,336 cooperative farms the fixed capital of which totalled 70.3 billion lei, up from 8 billion lei in 1962.

A comparison of the national economy between 1938—Romania's best pre-war year—and 1985—that marked the end of the seventh five-year period—is relevant for the growth of the socialist property, of the national wealth. Romania's industrial production was 59 times as big in 1985 as in 1938. Also in 1985 Romania produced 71,819 million kw/h electricity, 49,819,000 tonnes of coal and 10,718,000 tonnes of crude oil, 9,212,000 tonnes of pig iron and 13,795,000 tonnes of steel. The capacity of power stations was 19,576 megawatts in 1985, up from 501 in 1938; the gross agricultural production was 3.07 bigger in 1985 than in 1938, with the animal production being 3.95 times as large as in 1938. The national wealth also increased considerably to about 5,000 billion lei with the fixed capital being worth more than 3,200 billion lei.

Foreign Secretary To Visit China 25-29 April
LD211429 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1224 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, April 21 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Budimir Loncar will officially visit China from April 25 through 29, Yugoslav Government Spokesman Aleksandar Stanic announced at his regular weekly press conference here today.

Ambassador Stanic said that the forthcoming visit reflects the interest of both sides in a permanent, substantive political dialogue on the most important questions of international relations and further development of bilateral cooperation.

Loncar's talks with new Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and other high Chinese officials are expected to reaffirm the broad foundations of mutually beneficial cooperation and point to new prospects for its development, Stanic said.

SFRY Denies Al-Wazir Killer Used Yugoslav Plane
LD211408 Kuwait KUNA in English 1207 GMT
21 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, April 21 (KUNA)—An official Yugoslav spokesman Thursday denied that the assassins of late Palestinian leader Khalil al-Wazir used any Yugoslav plane or any transportation means.

Alexandar Stanic told KUNA here today that the Yugoslav airlines company (JAT) is the only company which flies to Tunis, noting that none of Abu Jihad's killers was on board Yugoslav planes.

He stressed that his country condemned and condemns all forms of terrorism and combats it with all possible methods.

Stanic's statement contradicts reports claiming that a JAT airliner was at Tunis airport last Saturday night, the night on which the deputy general commander of the Palestinian revolutionary forces was murdered by a group of seven masked commandos.

In the meantime, it was known that another Yugoslav airlines company, Adria, had just opened a direct route between Yugoslavia and occupied Palestine through the cities of Ljubljana and Tel Aviv.

Petrovic Comments on Al-Wazir Assassination
AU211745 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
20 Apr 88 p 2

[Dusica Petrovic commentary: "An Assassination for a Video"]

[Text] Israel has yet again in the blind passion of retaliation impudently and insolently attacked a far off foreign country. The terrorist unit of the Israeli secret police, the Mosad, killed the PLO military commander Khalil al-Wazir, known as Abu Jihad, in his house in Tunis.

The subsequent storm of condemnation in the international world which followed can mean only one thing—that this latest Israeli act was also a flagrant breach of international norms of behavior. This act violated the independence of a country, was aggressive, and introduced the law of the jungle in international relations.

Tens of Palestinian officials have already become victims of the Israeli secret service, and Tel Aviv is using all means to carry out its own policy, without first turning to the possibilities of seeking peaceful solutions to conflicts with neighbors.

State terrorism is not such a new feature of the incessant Israeli warring with the Arab countries. It has been used on several occasions, whenever it was assessed that Israeli interests had been "threatened" somewhere. In its policy of retaliation, Israel has been continuously increasing the extent and force of its actions, disdaining the existing and accepted norms of behavior among states. The spectacular operation to rescue Israeli citizens at Entebbe Airport in Uganda in 1976, the destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor near Baghdad in 1981, the extensive "clearing" operations in Lebanon in 1982, the illegal evacuation of thousands of Falasha Jews from Ethiopia in 1984, the bombing attack on the PLO Headquarters in Tunis in 1985, and now again the attack in Tunis are only some of the major actions of violence in foreign territories provoked by Tel Aviv, assuming the right to intervene in any place at any time, imposing its justice on others by fire and sword and satisfying its passion for retaliation.

The physical liquidation of 'Arafat's assistant, Abu Jihad, has unavoidably raised many questions. One of the first is, what would today's world be like if political retaliation achieved legitimacy in international relations? Where would the retaliations stop in such a nightmarish world which would return humankind to the savagery of Biblical times and one prevailing law: an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth?

Of course, there is also the question of how the seven commandoes were able to get to the Tunisian coast unnoticed. How were they, armed to the teeth, able to pass as tourists? How did they get to the house of the Palestinian leader without being stopped? How...

Ben Ali, the Tunisian president, ordered an official inquiry. The reported result was: There is no doubt that the State of Israel was behind the group of assassins. Tunisia then lodged a complaint with the UN Security Council. Considerable concern was expressed throughout the world because of this pirate raid on the territory of a peaceful, independent, and nonaligned state. Yugoslavia officially joined in the condemnation of this futile act of violence, calling on the world to support reason, dialogue, and peaceful solutions and to warn the Israeli attackers who might think of attacking all countries with Palestinian populations, as they did Tunisia, that state terrorism is a fire on with which it could burn its own fingers.

Abu Jihad has been killed, but the disappearance of the moving spirit and strategist of the mass Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories will not stop the people's revolt. The uprising of the Palestinian people cannot be stopped by pressing a button, said Abu Jihad, PLO's number two, in a recent interview to BORBA in his headquarters in Tunis.

The Israeli commandoes' real target in Tunis was not only Abu Jihad but the Palestinian people themselves, the uprising which is spreading despite the terror, the indicated possibility of negotiations and a peace conference, and the growing reputation of the PLO.

The gunfire of terrorists, the cold-bloodedness of the camera woman who took pictures of a dying man remind us too much of the dark times of the Jewish Holocaust under Hitlerism. The modern world must raise its voice against the new Hitlers, against the arbitrary crossing of foreign borders, against the destabilizers of peace and stability, and must support adherence to the principles and laws of civilized behavior in international relations.

Economists Discuss Restructuring With Soviets
LD211413 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0904 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Zagreb, 21 Apr (TANJUG)—Most prominent Yugoslav and Soviet economists-academicians gathered in Zagreb today at a "roundtable" on "Restructuring in the Economic Mechanism of the USSR and the Characteristics of Changes in the SFRY's Economic System."

The gathering, in whose work over the next 2 days over 30 economic experts from the two countries will take part, was opened by Academician Jakov Sirotkovic, president of the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts, who stressed that the roundtable in Zagreb was the result of very fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the Council of Yugoslavia's Academies of Sciences.

Yugoslav and Soviet economists will exchange experiences and assess the situation and the directions in which the changes in the two countries are developing. They will also consider theoretical problems, socioeconomic relations and political systems, market and prices, planning policy, and financial systems, while reference will also be made to scientific-technological development, problems in agriculture, and other topical issues.

Agreement Reached on Debt Rescheduling
LD212145 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1921 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] New York, 21 Apr (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government delegation led by Boris Skapin, assistant of the federal secretary for finance, and the International Coordination Committee of Commercial Banks (ICC), led by its chairman, Fulvio Dobrich, senior deputy chairman of the Manufacturer's Hanover Bank, have reached an agreement on rescheduling the Yugoslav debt to commerical banks.

The ICC also gave support for and recommended to the banking community that it approve of a medium-term financial deposit and trade facilities to the amount of $300 million in this calendar year to help Yugoslavia in its application of the economic program supported by the IMF.

FEC on Changes in Foreign Economic Relations
LD212030 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1546 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, 21 Apr (TANJUG)—At a session today the FEC endorsed draft amendments and addenda to the resolution on the policy of the implementation of Yugoslavia's social plan this year, which are a result of draft measures for the implementation of the economic policy after 15 May when the intervention measures, adopted on 14 November last year, cease to be effective.

The draft changes refer to measures of the economic policy in the sphere of economic relations with foreign countries, general social and joint consumption, personal incomes, market and prices, and the credit-monetary policy.

Apart from this, the Federal Secretariat for Finance announces, the FEC endorsed draft changes to decisions on the projection of the country's balance of payments, the tasks and goals of the joint new money issue and monetary policy and joint foundations of the credit policy in 1988. The FEC decided to prepare draft amendments and addenda to a number of laws which would contain specific measures for the implementation of the proposed changes in this year's resolution.

The FEC examined a report on the realization of the country's balance of payments last year. In this connection, it stressed that the main goals and orientations in the sphere of the policy of economic relations with foreign countries were realistically and consistent with possibilities of production, exports, and imports. The achieved results are, however, not satisfying, first and foremost due to aggravated external and internal conditions of economic activity.

The FEC also endorsed draft amendments and addenda to the law on the financing of the federation. It is proposed that the federation should receive 25 percent of income from the basic tax on services, while 75 percent of income from the basic turnover tax would still go to the federation. Apart from this, the amendments ensure that the amount of direct revenue which is higher than planned should be directed toward the permanent budget reserve of the federation.

The FEC adopted a decision on a temporary cessation of work of the Yugoslav Consulate in Dortmund, FRG, in keeping with measures for economizing and rationalization.

Kosovo Polje Situation 'Getting Worse'

Gracanin Receives Petitioners

AU191456 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 14 Apr 88 p 3

[TANJUG report: "Kosovo Delegation Received by Petar Gracanin: To Return the Trust in the System"]

[Text] Belgrade, 13 Apr—A group of citizens of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality from various places of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo also visited the Presidium of the SR of Serbia, and in talks with Petar Gracanin, president of the Presidium of the SR of Serbia, drew attention to the fact that despite the measures taken and some results achieved, the situation in Kosovo is getting worse and worse, that emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins under duress continues, and that the situation of lawlessness, pressure, and of not solving problems continues. It was also pointed out that Albanian nationalists and separatists continue to act aggressively, causing insecurity and unrest, and attacking the property and people of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality.

Many omissions, shortcomings, and inconsistencies were pointed out in the conduct of the cadre policy in Kosovo, and their elimination was said to be one of the key conditions for a more successful struggle against nationalism and for a normalization of the situation in Kosovo. It was demanded that all the necessary measures to implement the positions and the conclusions of the ninth session of the LCY Central Committee be taken with the support of all the republics.

Taking part in the talks, Petar Gracanin particularly pointed out that it is most important at this moment that safety of all the citizens in Kosovo be ensured and that it is the respective organs in the province who are responsible for it. It is indispensable that the leaderships in Kosovo should ensure most direct activities among the people, for this is the only way that one can count on concrete results that will return the trust in the system, renew intranational confidence, and check the emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins.

The SR of Serbia has invested all its forces and means so far in the implementation of the political stances on Kosovo in overcoming the present situation in the province. It will continue to do so, in conformity with the positions and conclusions of the sixth session of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia and on the basis of the tasks in the Yugoslav Program on Kosovo.

Press Deplores Petition

AU191952 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 15 Apr 88 p 5

[G. Bajrami article: "The Implications of a Petition"]

[Text] The petition with 2,640 signatures delivered by 12 persons from the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo to the SFRY Assembly as "their contribution to the public discussion on the draft amendments of the SFRY Constitution" deserves attention and the most deeply critical consideration of progressive forces, not merely because of its content, but because of the way that has been chosen to make a "contribution" to the activity surrounding the constitutional changes. Without pretending to deal in detail with all this petition's demands, which have been put before Yugoslav public opinion in a TANJUG report, we will dwell merely on some implications the petition may carry.

The demand that the position of the provinces should be changed and that they should no longer be constitutive elements of Yugoslav federalism is not only a demand to turn back, but is an unambiguously counterrevolutionary demand which is in opposition to all our general precepts and to the aims of the constitutional changes, since it affects the basic principles on which the structure of federal Yugoslavia as an equal community of peoples and nationalities relies. Of course, this petition is not the first time that demands to abandon these principles have appeared before public opinion; such demands have been expressed and given broad publicity in various media in different forms. This is another issue, but on this occasion comment is required on the ultimatum-like character of this petition which states that "if these demands are not met, the Serbian and Montenegrin population will leave Kosovo in an organized way."

What does this really mean, at a time when the progressive forces of Kosovo, the SR of Serbia, and all Yugoslavia, are unceasing in their efforts to stabilize the political and security situation in Kosovo, to strengthen intranational relations, to prevent Serbian and Montenegrin emigration from Kosovo, and to create the most favorable conditions for the return of emigrants and the arrival of all those who wish to live and work in Kosovo? The question arises of whether such a form of "contribution to the public discussion of the draft amendments to the SFRY Constitution" is not a contribution to further destabilize the situation in Kosovo and beyond, to deepen intranational divisions, and an invitation to mass emigration, by making unacceptable demands. This behavior is nothing less than open lack of trust in the way the understanding on constitutional amendments is being achieved.

Producing such demands that undermine the SFRY, supposedly as the demands of the people and in the interests of the Serbs and Montenegrins, is no less dangerous than are attempts to legalize such a form of practice and approach in the field of constitutional order merely because of the "national aspect." How can it then be said that the constitutional changes aim to strengthen the unity, community, and equality of our peoples and nationalities if such "contributions" start to become legal.

Working people and citizens of Kosovo have, in the course of the debate conducted up till now through the legal forms of our social and political organizations, given support to all those changes whose aim is progressive and which are in the spirit of the Anti-Fascist Council for the National Liberation of Yugoslavia and the achievement of Tito. We therefore believe that working people and citizens from the ranks of all the peoples and nationalities who live and work in Kosovo will understand this petition as part of a campaign to radically change relations within the SR of Serbia to the detriment of the autonomy of the provinces, aiming at a typically centralist, statist, hegemonist, and large-scale state structure, a campaign that will doubtless meet with the condemnation of all progressive forces in Kosovo, Vojvodina, Serbia, and the whole of Yugoslavia.

Our unity stands before a great test, and the atmosphere for constructive and reasoned debate concerning the constitutional amendments must be maintained, with the elimination of all methods of blackmail, obstruction, premature conclusions, and other behavior that is unacceptable to the LCY and other progressive forces. The reaction of the LC and other progressive forces to such methods is more than ever necessary, because such petitions represent a serious provocation for our multinational community and could have unforeseen consequences.

Pristina Leader on Petition

AU191624 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian
16 Apr 88 p 5

[B. Reka report: "For Democratic, but Reasoned Dialogue"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday's extended meeting of the Presidium of the Gracanica LC Regional Conference discussed the activities of its members in carrying out current tasks, but the opening remarks of Predrag Lazic and the debate of almost 4 hours were largely concerned with the most recent meeting of the Pristina LC Communal Committee, the resignations of some members submitted at this meeting, and the inadequate representation of cadres from Gracanica in the Pristina LC Communal Committee. [passage omitted]

On the Petition [subhead]

Hysamedin Azemi, president of the Pristina LC Communal Committee Presidium, spoke about the responsibility of local Communists to prevent any kind of gathering on the basis of national divisions. He particularly mentioned the recent petition of a group of Kosovo citizens to the SFRY Assembly, the visit of another group of citizens to the Presidency of the SR of Serbia, and tendencies to deny everything that has been achieved in Kosovo. We are a democratic country, he said, but do such gatherings, petitions, and visits of groups of citizens to the highest national authorities really contribute to the further development of our self-managing socialism? How can anybody in Yugoslavia assert today, as one of the citizens of this group from Klina did, that "It was better and life was safer during the 4 years of occupation than during the whole postwar period of life in freedom"? We can have no illusions that such people do not exist in Yugoslavia, but how is it possible that there are those who enable such people to convey their intolerable views to the broad spectrum of public opinion?" [passage omitted]

Grievances Voiced at Meeting

AU191519 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian
15 Apr 88 p 6

[B. Reka report: "We Will Not Allow Cadres To Be Insulted"]

[Excerpts] After the examination of cadre policy by the Presidium of the Kosovo Polje LC Regional Conference the evening before last, there was also a discussion of this topic at the Presidium of the 16th Local Community LC Action Conference. After the opening remarks of the chairman, Nebojsa Zoric, and the comment of various speakers that the local political and security situation is serious and complicated, the Communists concluded that the new Pristina LC Communal Committee leadership must be supported, that the former cadres who had pursued a "mistaken cadre policy" must be brought to account, that a practical program of measures for this local community must be drawn up within the framework of that approved at the recent gathering of Kosovo Polje Communists, that the statement of the State Security Service on the recent meeting of the Reserve Officers Association of this local community must be reexamined, and that local Communists should prevent the holding of the gatherings of citizens which have been announced.

However, on this occasion too, besides well-intentioned and constructive speeches on how the dire situation in Kosovo Polje can be overcome, discordant political notes were also struck that can only make the serious political atmosphere even more tense. Among such speeches, it is particularly worth mentioning those of Bosko Budimirovic and Bogdan Kecman, who once again repeated their familiar theories about the lack of prospects for life in Kosovo, "the need for mass emigration," and "the mistaken conduct of cadre policy in the commune and the province," without forgetting their now familiar "list" of "unsuitable cadres who are responsible for the present political situation," the arbitrary accusation and defamation of such cadres, and so on. How far such "lectures" went on this occasion may be judged from the unacceptable remark of Bosko Budi mirovic, which called the report of the State Security Service on the recent meeting of the local Reserve Officers Association a "false and hostile leaflet," (!?) and his other remark that ignoring the wishes of the local people for the candidates they have proposed for key offices in the commune and insisting upon other candidates is in fact an attempt to demoralize the Serbs and Montenegrins so that they stay here no longer.

After talking about the conclusions of the last meeting of the Kosovo Polje LC Regional Action Conference, Mitar Baljevic, its chairman, in assessing the current political and security situation in the region as complicated, said that all forecasts indicated that this should be the decisive year in achieving its stabilization. He drew attention to the fact that the Communists of this regional conference could not be made responsible for a possible gathering of citizens in Kosovo Polje, since, as had been announced, citizens would be coming from other parts of the province, and not merely from this locality. [passage omitted]

Zivojin Mitrovic, secretary to the Pristina LC Communal Committee Presidium, dissociated himself from some speeches, although he recalled that the tone and atmosphere of the last Pristina LC Communal Committee meeting had been established because the electoral activity and the nominations of cadres had not been well-prepared from the very start, and that we must now examine in detail how this came about and establish the specific responsibilities of those in charge. Cadre policy is a very important factor, he said, but should be dominated by a class, not national approach, since otherwise we will pave the way for the federalization of the LCY.

In conclusion, it is also worth mentioning the proposal of Ljubisa Cirkovic concerning certain individuals at past gatherings of citizens and Communists in Kosovo Polje, such as Spasoje Lakicevic, Mica Samardzic, and others who issued arbitrary defamations and accusations against some leading Kosovo cadres. The truth of such declarations must be examined, and if they are found to be false, the appropriate legal measures must be taken, including prosecution, because such defamation causes confusion among the people, who do not really know who to believe.

Pristina Assembly Elects New Officers

LD211617 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1059 GMT 21 Apr 88

[Text] Pristina, 21 Apr (TANJUG)—At their joint session today, delegates of all three chambers of the Assembly of Prisitina municipality reelected Bozidar Lazic to the post of the president of Pristina municipality. Sadri Godanci, hitherto secretary of Pristina Secretariat for Internal Affairs, was elected president of the town's Executive Council.

However, Godanci's election did not pass smoothly. A number of delegates insisted that, before Godanci's election is confirmed, it should be established if it was true that Sadri Godanci had made threats against the municipal public prosecutor because of the latter's great interest in the affair surrounding housing loans granted by the Pristina branch of Ljubljanska Banka. The delegates also wanted to know under which terms Godanci himself was granted a loan.

Following a debate in which about 20 delegates took part, Sadri Godanci was nevertheless elected to his new post with three abstentions.